2015-06-01 09:26:00
Private message to Blaise Zabini

Your silence doesn't leave me any less certain that you managed to escape the school mostly unscathed. You can thank Hydra for that. She didn't have to give you back your wand, but she did it anyway.

You'll be contacted soon about joining up with the latest incarnation of the council. They're regrouping and recruiting, and both your money and your name will bring them calling. For all I know, they already have called on you.

I've no illusions that you're interested in joining our cause, but I sincerely hope that you'll keep off their side, as well.

Anything you want to ask me, I'm an open book. If not, no worries.
Mrs Longbottom says that if you want to join the programme thing you should come to Hogwarts and meet with Charlie Weasley.
Galleon members will be put in leadership positions because we know you've been with us for a lot longer than some of the others.
5th Years who want to join the programme but didn't get to sit their OWLs can get a reference from one of the teachers who's still here.
2015-06-01 09:59:00
(no subject)

Get over it already.
WILL WE HAVE TO SING? OR MARCH?
well singing isn't against the rules or anything, if you LIKE singing. But it is never EVER mandatory! marching either.
Only at the annual talent show.
If you come you might get put to work rebuilding the school. If you're good at charms maybe you'll learn the Fidelius. That sort of thing.
NO ONE wants to hear me sing. Oh, and, this is Hermione Granger. Sally-Anne and I made these galleons for everyone. I meant to say ages ago.
WOT, THIS WHOLE TIME? ANY OTHER SURPRISZES YOU'VE GOT IN STORE?
This is Terry Boot I've been a galleon holder since the beginning too.
2015-06-01 10:46:00
Private Message to Draco

Busy today?

I'm going down to Dumfries to help with a situation in the camps - as it's a nice day (and I've got to be back tonight for the full moon), I thought I'd take the bike.

Care to join? Or come on your own broom. Could use an Auror in case things get ugly.

alt_draco at 2015-06-01 15:55:54
(no subject)

Can I have a go at the bike?

alt_sirius at 2015-06-01 15:57:19
(no subject)

Yeah, sure. Better bring a broom, though, so we've something else to fly when you crash it.

alt_draco at 2015-06-01 15:58:43
(no subject)

I've flown a dragon, you twat. I'm not going to crash your bike.

I'll grab the firebolt, though.
terRy boOT? FOr Real? didn'T tHaT NUTter AMYcus carROw Kill HIM?
The Order students know it's true I escaped the day Carrow died. The Longbottoms adopted me.
he wrote in february you eedjit, don't you remember?
Whoa. Any OTHER muggleborns on the galleon?
Yes, but up to them whether to let people know.
2015-06-01 11:19:00
Private message to Blaise Zabini

What ho, Zabini. Reckon we've not crossed paths since the party at Marlborough.

Running in different social circles these days?

Running in general?

No need to be like that. Things are headed in a new direction over here, if you care to have a look. No more Marks, no more unpredictable leadership. For now, anyway. You could come enjoy while the enjoying is good.

What do you think?

alt_blaise at 2015-06-02 18:02:28
(no subject)

Cheers, Montague.

Expect you must have been as busy I've been. Long list of matters to be seen to. You've heard, haven't you, that I'm meant to be marrying? Susan's decided it ought to be on the solstice. Auspicious in some perverse way to choose the shortest night for a wedding night. No idea, really. It's mine to smile, nod, and pay the invoices when they arrive.

Have there actually been any soirées I've missed? Doesn't seem as if it's been a very social season so far. Unless all the invitations have gone to the wrong address?

alt_jason at 2015-06-02 22:31:58
(no subject)

Busy but looking up. Change will usher in new opportunities if one keeps an eye out, right?

Susan Spinx, yes, I heard. Fit in all the right ways but I always figured you more for the tall brunettes.

Looking forward to married life?
I'll wait on that as long as I can, myself.

No soirées like the ones you're used to. They're smaller, more intimate, and a bit more desperate and thrilling and graceless than before.

The Calderwood siblings are hosting one at their country house out by Littlehampton. Tomorrow evening, in fact.

You fancy it? Bring Susan along if you like.

 alt_blaise at 2015-06-03 00:04:55  
(no subject)

Desperate and thrilling?

Can't miss that, can I?

Susan and I will come. If I'm in luck, perhaps she'll go home with someone else?

 alt_jason at 2015-06-03 00:26:24  
(no subject)

Like for someone to be tipped in her direction?

 alt_blaise at 2015-06-03 02:00:11  
(no subject)

Wouldn't hurt my feelings.

 alt_jason at 2015-06-03 02:23:15  
(no subject)

Noted.
Er, yes... I'm muggleborn, actually. Not the child of Squibs, what. (Oh, and cheers, whomever congratulated us.) - JFF
2015-06-01 14:33:00
Private Message to Finnigan and Clearwater

Heard you've been talking to my sister, Finnigan. Good job, keep at it. Penny, if she comes to you, be sure to tell her it's all for the good of the many and remind her that she did well, and the nightmares will fade in time. You know, the Prefect act. Oh, and that she was right to tell Parkinson to clear off. I've already said so but reinforcement can't hurt.

Anyway, Irish, whatever you said to her helped, must have done. Was wondering if you'd try your hand with Malcolm. My father says he's barely come out of his room since the battle. Didn't even get too excited about replacing the wand that was left at Hogwarts. See if you can cheer him up? It's making the others nervous.

--

2015-06-01 19:46:13
(no subject)

Sure, I can try talking to him. Now? Or tomorrow?

2015-06-01 19:48:02
(no subject)

Not this minute but today if you've the time. I think he's trying to talk his mother into taking him flying tomorrow.

Though come to that, you could go along if you were interested. I could arrange it.

2015-06-01 19:49:11
(no subject)

I think I'd rather talk to him without Pandora, if you think that's possible? At least the first time. So I could come over today, and maybe depending on how it goes I'll come along flying tomorrow.
That's perfect. I can keep her nose out of it for you.

Thanks. Do you want me to just cheer him up, or make sure he's ... I don't know, what are you worried about, exactly?

She hasn't come to me yet. Should I seek her out?

Likely not necessary, but she did seem to thrive on the attention. If you feel like feeding her ego like that.
Hello, all. Pansy Parkinson here. You may have heard me on the radio in the last few days talking about what happened at Hogwarts, why I joined the Order, and how to sign up for our Food Distribution Network.

I've been giving some thought lately to the notion of opportunity.

I think we stand at the edge of a true worldwide revolution -- a revolution that we can lead. Think about it. There is an entire world out there filled with a lot of people, most of whom don't do magic, and ignoring them all would be rather silly. Why not think of them as potential customers who would be amazed by a cream that really does remove spots, or who'd leap at the chance to get their hands on a jumper that never stains, or a pot that cleans itself -- the little conveniences that we take for granted that they'd be willing to pay good money for. And what about the ways magic can improve automobiles, aeroplanes, and films? Those things were created by Muggles, just imagine all the things we could come up with if we're working together.

There's an entire global market out there, and we have an incredible opportunity as a country. It takes all sorts to pull something like this off - inventors and manufacturers and artists, and people who know a thing or two about Potions and Charms and Runes and Muggle medicine and engines and tools, and those who'd know what non-magical people would want to begin with and whether it'd be useful for them, so the way I see it, there'd be plenty to go round.

As a young business owner, this is just such an incredibly exciting time -- and reading what the Transitional Government wants to do in terms of business and trade makes a great deal of sense to me.

The Protectorate was just too narrow and constricting -- it had a very specific idea of who to give opportunities to, and even then, the opportunities that were given tended to be conditional, and often dangerous, and carried a heavy personal price.

I can handle the personal price that Albion is asking of me -- they want me to work with non-magical people, and treat them with respect and dignity. That seems to be a reasonable trade-off in my
book, especially as I see a chance for all of us to benefit from it. And if those non-magical people are given opportunities and treated with respect and dignity? I think you'll find that they rather like freedom from fear and earning a decent living just as well as the rest of us.

**alt_pansy** at 2015-06-02 03:15:22
ORDER ONLY

Rachel, how hard would it be to provide proper security for a concert?

I have a feeling quite a few bands and musicians would get on board for one, especially if I landed a few key groups, but it could make for a bit of a target, and I know everyone would need assurances about that end of things.

**alt_rachel** at 2015-06-02 03:24:54
Re: ORDER ONLY

Let me think about that and get back to you.

We don't have enough people to properly guard a major target, but it's possible we could set up some sort of ward that would keep out the people who'd be a threat.

**alt_pansy** at 2015-06-02 03:38:28
Re: ORDER ONLY

That'd be excellent.

Thanks.

**alt_jeremy** at 2015-06-02 03:25:36
Order Only: private message to Pansy

Cracking good message there. Well done, you.
Re: Order Only: private message to Pansy

Ta very much.

I figure it'll mean we'll have some competition, but I have a feeling we'll be able to weather it.

You've been utterly marvellous picking up my slack with the Network while I've been haring off to sing songs on the radio, by the way. Much appreciated. The maps should help considerably, too.

Re: Order Only: private message to Pansy

No worries.

Oh, meant to tell you: two of the blokes are actually serious about opening a pub called Rubbish Service. Wasn't just the drink talking. Have to wait a bit, but when things calm, they're set to open a mixed-clientele venue.

Know any mixed bands might want a gig in a few months, you might keep them in mind, eh?

Re: Order Only: private message to Pansy

Oh, absolutely shall.

I've a feeling there'll be all sorts of random groups cropping up. I might even see if I can do some matchmaking to help it along.
The team dealing with the camps and their personnel and the team tasked with stitching together the network that's going to be the spine of our new economy are overlapping quite a bit. Stands to reason, since the camps are our source for new helping hands, as well as nodes for trade and the repositories of goods we'll need to move around.

We have a GIGANTIC map of the Protectorate Albion in its entirety, and Mum, Charlie and I have inlaid reporting charms on twenty or so spots on it. Those spots are cross-indexed to the twenty corresponding regional maps that lay out these areas in greater detail. (We have this all set up in the Charms classroom). These regional maps, in turn, are keyed to duplicate maps we've distributed to our information sources within that region. We've infused the maps with about six charms so far, and we'll add more as we find them useful.

What we have so far:

- Top ten resource available to offer for trade

- Top ten resources needed (shortages)

- Key representatives - economic (colour-coded to show if they're wizard or muggle)

- Key representatives - political (again, colour-coded)

- Transportation (the colours show if they're lorries, trains, boats or something else)

- Population breakdown (This can be queried to find out all sorts of information: wizard vs muggle, men vs women, adults vs children, able-bodied vs dependent, Protectorate loyal vs Albion loyal, and so on)

So this is how it works: say you have a yen for kippers and you want to find out which locations have fish available for trade. You do the first query charm over the large map, and titles of the regions that have fish will glow. You see that Norfolk has fish, and you do the charm again over the Norfolk map. That will show you which locations (towns, camps, cities) have surplus fish to trade. Or say you have extra fish you want to get rid of before it starts to stink. You can use
the maps to find out which locations are looking to get fish. See what extra resources they have, and then you have an opportunity to set up an exchange.

We have the charms laid, as I said, but the searches aren't showing much yet. This'll become more useful as we go as our reporting sources embed the information within their own maps ('Yarmouth reports it has three thousand extra barrels of kippers'), and we can then draw upon those facts and figures here.

Our muggle counterparts are brainstorming to try to come up with a similar method for doing this a muggle way--without using magic, in other words. Can't imagine how they can do it, but Davidson's people are working on it.

Alice and Remus: would it be all right for us to add the fideliused locations that we know about? If you approve, let Colin know to stop on by to give us the list we have so far.

If any of you lot can think of other information you want the maps to show, let Mum, Charlie or me know.

---

👤 **alt_fred** at 2015-06-02 02:07:59

*Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom and George Weasley*

We've been buried in parchmentwork for the past few days but once we surfaced, Mum told us what you're going to do to help Luna.

Good on you, mate. But if Professor wants to admit to any nervousness before tomorrow night, we're good to listen, and our lips are sealed, yeah?

👤 **alt_terry** at 2015-06-02 02:09:47

*Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom and George Weasley*

I think the Sorting Hat picked right for me.

But sometimes, I admit, it would be really useful to be a Gryffindor.

I'm not going to back out, though.
George says he's dead proud of you (that goes for me, too). You still have the same boggart?

It used to be werewolves, yeah. But I was pretty ashamed of myself after Remus left Hogwarts and it became clear why he left: because he didn't want to be forced to bite Hermione's parents. I did a lot of thinking and well, I look at Remus now and instead of just seeing a werewolf, I see him as a co-head of the Order, and teacher. Someone who Sirius became an animagus to help.

There was a boggart in one of the old abandoned buildings that my Zulu team was casing last year, so I learned that mine's changed. It's the git now. Amycus Carrow, with his throat ripped out, lunging for me. Which is funny, now that I think of it, because the reason I saw him like that is that I killed him. He's dead, and he can't hurt me anymore.

But. Anyway. Sirius taught me how to become an animagus. He learned the transformation to help Remus. So, it feels like--it feels like helping her is paying back.

Master the transformation and you get to help a werewolf?
alt_terry at 2015-06-02 02:35:33  
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom and George Weasley

It sounds mad, doesn't it? But yeah.

And I like Luna. She's always treated me as another Ravenclaw, just like any one of her other Housemates. She knitted me a miniature Ravenclaw scarf to use as a bookmark, and for my birthday she sent me carved raven that would peck at me if I dozed off on sentry duty.

alt_fred at 2015-06-02 02:37:02  
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom and George Weasley

How's she doing? Have you seen her? I haven't, not for several days. I know Mum's pretty worried, although she's trying to pretend she thinks nothing bad will happen.

alt_terry at 2015-06-02 02:44:16  
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom and George Weasley

Remus suggested I spend time with her as the Professor in these last couple of days before the full moon. So I did that today.

She told me she was an utter berk to a bunch of people yesterday. Hard to imagine about Luna, isn't it? But she's been avoiding people and really quiet today.

She smells ... different. Dunno how to describe it, a lower note of sort of a wilder tang. Not quite canid, but close.

And she smells really afraid.

I also saw Colin this afternoon. He looked absolutely gutted when he asked me how she was doing. Apparently she's said she doesn't want to see him until after it's over.
I do get scared, when I think of watching her transform. Even though Sirius has insisted she won't bite me when I'm in my animagus form, and that I can calm her. But seeing how much more scared she is than me makes me feel like I'd be an absolute worm if I backed out now.

Madam Pomfrey has been really blunt about the risks. Not for me, I mean, but for her.

We're all hoping that since she was bit at the dark of the moon instead of the full moon, she won't transform. But it seems clear something will happen. We just don't know what.

Hermione and Madam Pomfrey are going to be monitoring her. They think that the secret room--I mean the one they're calling the Room of Requirement now--will arrange itself to help, like make a separate chamber separated by glass, so they can see.

Dunno what they can do, though, if it all starts to go bad.

Merlin. I'll be glad when the full moon is over, and she's safe on the other side of it.

We all will, mate.

We'll be in the castle, probably in either the Charms classroom or the Great Hall before you transform and go in, yeah? If you want to see us beforehand.
Thanks.

You are utterly brilliant, you know.

Hello, amazingly handsome and talented boyfriend.

Prepare to be rather thoroughly snogged tonight.

Just so you're aware.

Do you remember last Thursday? That. Only better.

Careful, you'll give us swelled heads.

George just read your private message and told me to say 'yes, brillant!' And then then he made a joke, sort of a play on words on what I just wrote about 'swelled head' that was filthy enough that I won't sully your tender ears. I hope you will consider it a sign of how glad he is to be your boyfriend, and reflect that it's a good thing Mum wasn't here to hear him. She would have charmed his mouth full of soapsuds.
alt_pansy at 2015-06-02 04:11:32
Re: Private Message to George and Fred

Oh, believe me, I can imagine well enough.

And there are quite a few things I am grateful that your mum has not been present to hear, Fred.

Let's just leave it at that.

alt_kingsley at 2015-06-02 04:04:03
(no subject)

I talked to Mrs L, she said we might want to restrict to just Hogwarts maps depending on permission of the property -- I can start making the rounds day after tomorrow to make inquiries.

alt_fred at 2015-06-02 04:05:51
(no subject)

Right-o. Thanks.

alt_alice at 2015-06-02 15:22:31
(no subject)

I've been talking with Lord Denning, he suggested we bring in one of the scientists from Wakefield to help with maps and tracking all the people from the camps looking for family members.

I'll have him meet with you both. Whatever he needs. We can order equipment from France if necessary.
2015-06-01 22:14:00
A new month begins.

I believe that was the longest May upon record, and not for the usual reasons.

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alt_linus at 2015-06-02 03:20:10
Private Message to Professor Siz

I keep reading bits of the poetry and then setting it aside to let my mind cool off. The novel is a lovely respite, and quite good!

I have asked Madam Pince if she might possibly be able to lay hands on a guidebook to Oxford for me.

When I have gotten a bit further with the poetry, might I write you about it? That way you don’t have to put up with me burbling in actual time, but can either save it until you need something utterly non sequitur or even leave it unread. I shall of course be making notes to myself to spare Lavender and the rest of the world, but there are some bits in Mr Owen's work that I do not even know why it should bother me so. We could not see it from where we had taken refuge -- and yet the lines about the thick green light, which, though I understand he is talking about something completely different, and it was a Muggle war, and the killing curse is swift besides and nothing like what he was describing, and yet

Pardon. I think I shall read a bit more of Gaudy Night now, and ask the elves for some warm milk, which seems inadequate to the task, but one does what one can.

Did you know the house elves respond to praise and thanks rather like a first year Ravenclaw? Quite interesting, really.

Dear me. What a ragbag my mind is. Please forgive. I shall be at my arithmantical tasks bright and early upon the morrow, I assure you.
P.S. And of course they're people. Anyone who has poets like that is definitely people.

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-02 10:54:08
Re: Private Message to Professor Siz

Writing is a sensible solution, thank you, Linus.

Now I'm wondering about Goblin poetry. They must have some, they have a quite sophisticated language, from the bits I've heard. I'll see if I can ask Charlie, if we sort the dragons sufficiently for the time being.

If you want other Sayers novels, I will gladly lend them. My two favourite are still Gaudy Night and Busman's Honeymoon, but there's a lovely cipher in Have His Carcass you might particularly enjoy and some delightful word-play in Murder Must Advertise.

alt_linus at 2015-06-02 03:21:34
Private Message to Linus Moon

Shorter Wilfred Owen:

_Dulce et decorum est_
_Pro patria mori._

Bollocks.

alt_linus at 2015-06-03 04:07:17
Private Message to Headmistress Vector

For taking time from your new duties as Headmistress to assist me in finding certain arithmancy references, my thanks to you are inexpressible. I am certain Professor Siz will be grateful as well.

By the way, have you ever heard of a thing that's a sort of Muggle arithmancy? Something called Fizziks? It boggles the mind, but then this Albion of ours seems to be a land where one can be boggled six times before breakfast and still count it an ordinary day. In any case,
if you have any references to same, please send them along, as I plan to make inquiries at the first opportunity. From something Madam Pince says, there may even be a way someday for the Hogwarts Library to request tomes of Fizziks lore. (I believe "if we live through all this" was merely a grace note, a librarianish joke as it were.)
Sanctus Deus, Sanctus Fortis, Sanctus Immortalis, miserere nobis, amen. Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, Ἅγιος ισχυρός, Ἅγιος ἀθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Holy God, Holy Almighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, now and ever and to the ages of ages, amen. Blessed are our Gods, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages, amen.

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of your departed servants Stephen, Ned, Gaude, Parnassus, Isadora, Ursula, Xerxes, Gunther, and Maximus. May the gods have mercy on their souls, having departed without having had time to bring forth fruits worthy of repentance, amen. With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of your departed servants Orion and Andie, for whom I pray in the place of another. May they rest in peace. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, through the mercy of God, amen.

Where eternal luster glows, the realm in which the light divine is set, place the souls of your children Savitha and Nisha, O Purifier, in that deathless, imperishable world; make them immortal in that realm where movement is accordant to wish, in the third region, the third heaven of heavens, where the worlds are resplendent. Shantih.

May the Gods grant the souls of all my lost children find rest where the righteous repose; may their names as written and set upon my altar be made eternal, worthy of blessedness and everlasting memory. On your creations, O Gods, have mercy: forgive their sins as I pray they forgive my failures.

Harry Marvolo Potter. Harry Marvolo Potter. Harry Marvolo Potter. I write your names so that they will be remembered; while there is life in my body there will be life in your names. It is not me who says this but Asar, Strength of the Eye, He-Who-Sees, he who causes the world to grow, who opens the ways and weighs the souls of the dead: your souls are made perfect in My house, the house of Asar, Osiris, Wesir, Ausar. Your souls are brought together in the halls of My judgement, whole and uncorrupted, to be granted life eternal in the world hereafter. I declare it is so.

O you who unclose the ways and open the roads to beneficent souls in
the house of Osiris, unclose the ways and open the roads to the souls of those who have now entered unto you. Let them enter boldly and come forth in peace at the house of Osiris, without hindrance and without repulse. Let their souls enter at their pleasure and go forth at their will, triumphantly with you, and let that be executed which they shall order, in the house of Osiris; let it be done to them even as they were the God Osiris. Let not my delay to gather their names before writing my prayers impede their entrance into the house of Osiris; let their names be written; let their memories be held eternal in the house of Osiris.

Sanctus Deus, Sanctus Fortis, Sanctus Immortalis, miserere nobis, amen. Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, Ἅγιος ἰσχυρός, Ἅγιος ἀθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Holy God, Holy Almighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, now and ever and to the ages of ages, amen.

It is not me who says this but he before whom the sky shakes, the black boar who swallows the moon, the bringer of storms, the lord of death. I renounce the serpent, he who was spat out, the great undying destroyer. Let his name be struck forever from the surface of the world. Let him be forgot. As his body was burned without ceremony, let what little remained of his souls be broken and scattered upon the winds. Let him go forth into nothingness, to be lost into nothingness, without respite and without shelter. Let the ways be closed and the doors be barred to him.

Let all this be done as I have written, and let not this demand sully the worth of my prayers. And may the Gods have mercy upon me for my failures and for my mistakes.
Private Message to A Dolohov

Batya?

alt_crouch_jr

alt_antonin at 2015-06-02 05:25:47
(no subject)

Awake, as you can no doubt see. I was just tending the altar.

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-02 05:39:43
(no subject)

I did see you'd written.

You managed it tonight, then? Resolved how to Did it bring some peace?

alt_antonin at 2015-06-02 05:48:32
(no subject)

Some. Not as much as it usually does, but some.

I keep thinking of Kolya. I told him, last week, that I finally understood that huge argument we had, when I first returned to England after my Mastery, where I blew up at him for all his fretting about me and his reluctance to involve me in his work with he-whose-name-I-shall-never-again-write. I wonder how many of us came to the point where we could not, in good conscience, involve those we loved in the Unmaker's tangles, but did not dare say so.

(And then I remembered that same argument, where Kolya burst out that he hoped I had a son just like me someday, and then stopped yelling at me to laugh and say he didn't know if he meant it as a curse or a blessing. And I told him it was a blessing, whole
and entire, to have one person in whom I have utter faith that I will never be betrayed.)

@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-02 05:50:42
(no subject)

(As have I.)

@alt_antonin at 2015-06-02 05:59:56
(no subject)

And thank all the gods there were or are for you, indeed.

I keep choosing the wrong people as proteges. Or the right people, but from the wrong side. Perhaps the gods are trying to tell me that I have used all my fortune in choosing, for a lifetime, in you.

@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-02 06:04:39
(no subject)

I'm sorry for your disappointment in the other one, Batya.

His statement was treachery. An affront.

You couldn't help but feel it personally. Sunday evening. I apologise. I should have made myself known, but I also didn't wish to disturb you.

If I ever have the opportunity, I will be sure he suffers exquisite torments for it.

@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-02 06:15:43
(no subject)

Mind you, if Bella or Rod finds him first, there may be nothing left upon which to take revenge.

Have never read so much arrogant nonsense.
And such utter idealistic twaddle.

Right about one thing only: his equality with the filth and beasts he imagines he'll raise up.

Ah -- so you did hear my little temper fit, then. I'd hoped you'd already left for Buckingham. (When will you be back to sleeping here, anyway? Or is that a complex question? I can join you, if you'd like; I am only sleeping here out of habit. Well, out of habit and because if I have lost my sanctuary at Hogwarts, I will defend Cottesmore with my last breath, but I suppose that much is a given.)

At any rate. It isn't just that he's come down so firmly on the Phoenix's side; I told Perks, and I was not lying, that I'm proud of them all for having chosen a cause and dedicated themselves to it, even if it's not the side I chose. (And even though that pride will not change how I must now treat them.) It isn't even the waste of potential, or the fact he is undoubtedly going to use that training against us: I am confident either you or I could prevail against him in a fight, under the "old age and treachery" clause; he is good, preternaturally so, but he still has a great deal of experience to go.

No, I find it's the premeditation that bothers me. And you're more right than you know. Do you know -- he told me on Sunday, that being the proximate cause for my little fit of redecoration, that he isn't the children of Squibs after all: he is Muggleborn. And he's been plotting this the whole way. Every helpful gesture, every listening ear, every cup of coffee brought at the tail end of a late night, every bit of assistance proffered. Every offer to spar, every bit of backup on a mission. It's all been carefully calculated, all along.

If it had only been that he looked at both sides of the equation and decided one would have to be a madman to follow the madman-whose-name-I-shall-never-write-again, that would be one thing, but for him to have been plotting from the start, and for me to have missed it, for so long? I feel like an idiot. And so
damnably foolish. I was better at this, once upon a time. Perhaps it is only that my heart has not been in the cause, not for too damn long. Or perhaps I am getting old and slow, and this is a sign.

I'm sorry, lapushka, I'm clearly suffering from an extra helping of Russian fatalism tonight. Best if we keep this from Bella (and Rod), I suppose. It will only complicate things further.

A mudblood? Bollocks!

That's a damn lie!

Throwing dung on the faith you kept with him.

(Afraid there's little chance of keeping it from Bella now that I know he said it.)

A mudblood? He seriously thought you'd take him at that word?

Am calling it a night here.

Will be at Cottesmore in three minutes. At the most.

I don't know whether it's truth or lie, but either way, it stings. And if it is truth, it does make a great many things that I'd chalked up to a Continental education come clear.

(He called me a hypocrite, you know. For being insufficiently orthodox in my reading material and my own acquaintances. I
suppose I can't argue that accusation too vehemently.)

At any rate. I'm just sulking because my pride is bruised, dear heart. Come home, and get a good night's sleep.
Private Message to Orion Sandoval

I've got a start on my list. Do be a dear and find the very best of these for me?

* Bed linens in a nice cream, 24 sets
* One of those lovely silk/wool woven coverlets with the vine embroidery. I want midnight blue. If you haven't got it, send samples
* Draperies.
** I want them royal to midnight for my suite. Last time I was there you had some with the constellations embroidered on in silver. Those are the ones I want. If you haven't got them... explain why you haven't.
** Will want to replace them throughout the house, so make a catalogue of what you've got in stock or think you can get in a reasonable time?
* Dressing table, fine but not fussy (make pictures or deliver several and we'll see which suits best)
* Armoir, elegant. (Make pictures so I can see what you've got) Be certain it's got a proper enlargement charm on. I won't have one of those scary monstrosities with antique charmwork that's failing, flickering in and out. I don't want any accidents with children about.
* Carpets. Persian for my suite. Chinese for the morning salon. (Perhaps something wonderful's come along in an estate sale recently? Or a seizure auction? I want something distinctive in a carpet. Not just medallions and lozenges. Don't bother sending anything with the tree of life motif. I've never seen one of those I'd give house room.)
* A small table for breakfasting outdoors.
* Comfortable furnishings for the sitting room. Nothing slouchy, of course. But comfortable. Honestly, you'd think Rod's never sat a minute in this house.
* Furnishings for the baby. I've no idea, really. Send the best of whatever you've got in that department. Blues, greens, silver. Nothing cheap or stupidly 'cheery', please.

I'm serious about its being only you or the elves making deliveries to L'Estrange Hill, but perhaps you could enlist one of your staff (whoever's got the best eye for colour, pattern, texture, and quality, mind) in selecting the right things. For instance, I really do need new linens for myself and a dressing gown. And comfortable shoes and
slippers. I don't expect you to help with those.

Oh, and would you have a word with your tapestry mage? The ones here have gone sluggish and dozy. What does he recommend? I'll send them out if needs be, but if there's something I can have the elves do in situ, I'd like to know it. (There's quite a nice one that I think must be Jael and Sisera, but it's gone still.)

Am sending the elves with my list for the food hall, but be my darling brother and be sure that whenever a delivery's on its way here, it includes Chat Noir chocs and a box of those gorgeous tiny gateaux I love.

---

✉️ alt_lana at 2015-06-02 22:52:50
(no subject)

You're not seriously out of my chocolates, are you? That's not a nice thing to tease about, Orion.

As repayment for that, you've got to have a word with Mama. Tell her this: I know she's terribly upset about Honoria and I know she's found it... difficult to think of my having been widowed. I know that with so very many things unsettled, she'll understand why I've turned to Rodolphus for protection (even if she's perplexed by his unbinding and separation). Tell her for me that he's a wonderful man and that she'll find him so if she'll only agree to come meet him.

I need you to persuade her and Papa that it's what they need to do. Explain that Rod and Bella are still fast allied, and that in this climate, the Sandovals really need to show loyal. You know it's true, O. They've a fine chance to improve their standing and security, and really they must be clear that they're with us.

I'm having you all to supper tomorrow. Half-six. See they come, will you? Bring Martha if you want. Or are you back with Aelis? Either would be welcome. (Anyone else and you should let me know in advance, as we'd run into difficulties with the wards, and I don't want any drama of that sort upsetting Mama.)
My eighteenth birthday is on Friday.

We're going to have a party, all right? A great big, grand party with loud music and dancing and loads of drinking and loose-morals aplenty (of the strictly Order-approved variety).

It can be a belated wedding celebration for Justin, Hydra, Ron, and Sally Anne, too. Not just a birthday party.

We'll hold it at the Manor. My house, that is. You can all have a look around and rub your less-than-pureblooded bodies on the expensive, antique furnishings.

Or no, best to have it at the castle. Then the galleon holders can come, and anyone else who wants to.

It'll be brilliant.

Count on it.

Sue and me are all over the music. Naturally.

And I'll just bet the elves would be up for making an enormous cake. I'll see if they want to come to the party too.

There should be Muggle music, like the records in Sirius's old room at Grimmauld. I mean, our room there.
alt_draco at 2015-06-02 15:41:15
(no subject)

Yes. Like that Ziggy Stardust/David Bowie or whatever-his-real-name-is.

And for you, the Birds or that Jackson Browne bloke.

I wonder what sort of muggle music is being made now, in 1998?

alt_pansy at 2015-06-02 15:43:50
(no subject)

I've been wondering that too.

I want to place an order for records from France just to see -- but Calais is rather busy with officials and trade negotiations, so we'll have to wait.

alt_pansy at 2015-06-02 15:42:04
(no subject)

I like the way you think.

And yes, I've got some stashed away too.

alt_pansy at 2015-06-02 15:59:05
(no subject)

And ooooh, Hermione, you like the Birds?

It figures Sirius's collection of wicked corrupting Muggle music would find its way to you two as well.
We listened to every album at least once, after we got there.

I think Draco wore the grooves out on *Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, he played that one over a lot.

I was utterly mad for *Space Oddity* for a while. I had it in my head that Sirius was just like Major Tom, and I was yelling into the void, and Merlin, I was so very silly about it.

But it still is an utterly brilliant song.

This whole thing was entirely my idea, so I hope you don't feel like you're obligated to help plan or play hostess. I don't really envision this being that kind of party - what Blaise would have called a *soirée*. We'll just dance and drink and have a laugh. And people can dress up if they like, or not dress up, if they don't like.

(I'd fancy a dance with you, though. More than one, if possible.)

It will be great.

Well, it *was* a little presumptuous, but no, I don't mind. It's sort of a relief, really. I wouldn't have the first idea where to even start.
I don't have any frocks, or dress robes, though. And I don't think I'd care for fancy dress, much. I don't know. I mean, I used to think about it when you and Harry were at parties but now that I can have any of it...I just think I'd look ridiculous.

But I'll dance with you, if you don't mind sore toes.

alt_draco at 2015-06-02 16:25:29
Re: Private message to Hermione

Do you want dress robes? If you do, Hydra can probably help you there. You already know I think you look gorgeous in anything (or nothing).

Consider my toes your willing victims - though there's cushioning charms for that.

alt_jeremy at 2015-06-02 16:22:25
(no subject)

Got a line on some fancy chocs if you'd like. Seems someone on Rubbish Service knows a bloke who knows a bloke.

(Getting easier to divert top-notch goods when the workers call it spoilage and levitate it out the back door.)

alt_draco at 2015-06-02 16:29:10
(no subject)

Sure, anything goes - bring your fancy chocs, bring your shit chocs. Watch it on the shit liquor, though.

alt_ron at 2015-06-02 16:46:38
Private Message to Malfoy

Yeah, well, and watch F-F on the good stuff.
@alt_draco at 2015-06-02 16:58:37  
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

Think he's as likely to wash it all back now, though?

@alt_ron at 2015-06-02 17:05:30  
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

Depends on Brodie, really.

Don't know. Maybe I'll be the one drowning in it this time.

@alt_draco at 2015-06-02 17:08:04  
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

Maybe.

Why, want me to stop you?

@alt_ron at 2015-06-02 17:17:55  
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

Ha. No.

If you're feeling like doing a favour, you could make sure Mum doesn't stop me, either.

It's hard to be a proper revolutionary when your mum's always round the next corner.

@alt_ron at 2015-06-02 17:23:41  
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

Y'know, really, we should make a firewhiskey distillery one of the next things we fidelius.
alt_draco at 2015-06-02 18:50:41
Re: Private Message to Malfoy

I reckon there are worse things a mother could do than keep you from the whiskey.

But sure, we can arrange for a distraction.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-02 17:18:08
(no subject)

That sounds brilliant.

alt_draco at 2015-06-02 20:11:34
(no subject)

You said it.

alt_justin at 2015-06-02 21:48:35
(no subject)

I say, Draco, that's jolly well sporting of you! By all means, a celebration does seem appropriate. I do like the thought of using the school, what--something to balance out the sadness writ on the castle.

-J

alt_draco at 2015-06-02 21:59:18
(no subject)

Yeah. I better look into some serious decorations.
Hermione, I heard from Madam Pomfrey that you're planning to spend the night tonight in the Room of Requirement to observe Luna? Are you sure you

Would you like me to take your place and use omnioculars so you can watch later? I could also take notes. I mean, I don't know how to brew Wolfsbane but part of my training so far has been in observing things to report to senior Healers so I don't think there's much I would miss.

Yes. I mean, I don't really want to do it, but Terry's planning to stay with her as a dog, just in case, and...and I thought about omnioculars and notes, but the thing is that it won't substitute for direct observation.

She's really terrified. And I think the effects are already beginning. Which makes sense, honestly, since the moon was at fullness a few hours ago. But it's night when the transformation would take place, if it does.

Believe me, if I thought I could take you up on it, I would do.

Do you want me to come up, so if you want to leave you can? I assume the room won't trap the observers in there. I can still have the omnioculars and notes.
I'm not going to say no.

Okay, I'll be there, then.

Thank you.

Oh, or also, up in the Hospital Wing we have some of that potion that makes you remember things very clearly but without much emotion. That might be helpful.

Oh, yes, of course: Commemini Acer.

Somehow that seems like cheating. I'll think about it.
alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-02 23:27:39
(no subject)

Well it has its own set of downsides, like any potion. I don't think it would be 'cheating' though.
2015-06-02 19:55:00
Order Only: Private message to Luna

You'll be fine.
I promise.

alt_lupin

alt_luna at 2015-06-03 16:09:57
(no subject)

thank you for being right

alt_lupin at 2015-06-03 16:34:06
(no subject)

How are you feeling?

alt_luna at 2015-06-03 17:42:40
(no subject)

I don't know if Sirius or anyone else told you, but I didn't transform. It would be downright ungrateful to whinge about how I feel today. But the wolf was very close all night, and so I don't remember a great deal.

I'm terribly groggy. Achy. Exhausted. A little restless, but nothing like before the moon. I suppose you must feel that way, too, every month? I don't have any idea if it would be worse or better if I had completely transformed.

Also, rather embarrassed. About some of the things that Terry must have seen. I am going to write to him to thank him, because he really did help, but I'm afraid it will be a little awkward. I mean, I was glad he was there in the end, really glad. But I don't know if I can ask it of him to do it again next month.

There isn't much dignity about it, is there? None at all, really.
I usually have a pretty bad headache the day after. Very strong tea helps, and there's a pain-relief potion that takes the edge off.

The days before the moon got better at some point. Your body and mind adjust a bit. Not that I'm exactly in a good mood, mind you, but I can manage. You'll get used to it. Next month won't be as bad.

It is not dignified. Nothing about it is dignified. But that's true of so much, Luna. Think of the other wounds that people suffered in the battle where you were bitten. There's no particular dignity to suffer a curse that leaves you unconscious in a pool of your bodily fluids, carried to the hospital wing by a benevolent friend; there's nothing dignified about nightmares or panic attacks. The dignity comes in how you got those wounds, doesn't it?

I don't know if you've ever read the obituary I wrote for Arthur Weasley, where I said that when he gave his life, he didn't see Dominic Selwyn as a Death Eater but as a fellow human being in mortal danger.

You did the same, you know; you didn't see Lavender as the pureblood bully who did her best to make your life miserable. You saw her as a fellow human being in mortal danger, and you went to her aid. And you paid a price. It's a price you get to live with for the rest of your life. Which will hopefully be long, and happy for 27 days out of every 28.

I'm sorry, I'm rambling. I'll blame it on the moon.

Madam Pomfrey already offered me the potion. I think it is helping a little. I'm just mostly staying quietly in my room. Being with Colin is helping. He's been quite sweet.

I'm glad to hear the full moons will most likely get better for me. You're right: this isn't any different than any number of kinds of
wounds. That gives me a little more courage to write to Terry. And I should write to Hermione, too. Sally-Anne told me she was there for a little while.

I do remember what you wrote for Mr Weasley. You're kind...I became rather choked up at the suggestion I might be even a little bit like him. I did love and admire him quite a lot.

I've wondered whether I would be allowed to return to Hogwarts next year. (If the school will even open, of course.) I think the fact that I didn't transform will mean there will be less obstacles, so that's a relief.

Anyway. I'm so glad I didn't have to face this entirely blindly. Your kindness and reassurance have helped more than I can say.

Alt_luna at 2015-06-03 19:18:52
(no subject)

And yes. I do plan to have a very happy life. I hope it will be happier for all of us.

Alt_lupin at 2015-06-03 19:23:05
(no subject)

Luna, I had no idea you were worrying about whether you'd be allowed to come back to Hogwarts.

They managed with me, for seven years. I was a Prefect, in fact. That's why the Shrieking Shack was built; it's where I went during my transformations. It was, admittedly, a secret. But I was also an ordinary 11-year-old, a good student but entirely ordinary aside from being a werewolf. You're a heroine, a long-time member of the Order, someone who was bitten during the May Battle.

If anyone TRIED to keep you out -- if it were even a possibility, that they'd keep you out -- I would personally burn this school to the GROUND.

This is your school. You got your bite DEFENDING this school.
You have just as much -- you have a BETTER right than anyone to be here.

@alt_luna at 2015-06-03 22:16:48
(no subject)

Well.

I suppose my fears seem quite foolish when they're looked at that way. Well, I know my thinking has certainly been muddled.

I didn't suppose I was going to a werewolf enclave, of course. But I didn't really know what was going to happen to me. Everything is so up in the air, all the old laws being thrown out, you see. The fact that I was bit was not a secret about me, either. Lavender has said she knows she owes me a life debt, but I think Mrs Brown wasn't particularly keen at the idea of having someone staying with them might happen to be a werewolf.

***

Picking up my quill again: I just spoke with Mrs Weasley, who stopped by to see how I was doing. I was a bit teary after reading what you wrote above, and she asked me about it. She was quite shocked, and she said, 'But of course you're not going back to the Browns! Your home is back with us at the Burrow, isn't it?' It was such a lovely feeling: I thought 'well, of course it is'--but I hadn't quite realised it, and no one had said anything.

I suppose it takes an effort to uproot old ways of thinking. I have a real home, and I'm not going to be rejected, I'm not.

It just takes a little while to get used to it.

I imagine a lot of the students have fears about what is going to happen to them.
**2015-06-02 21:09:00**  
*Private Message to R Lestrange*

We're off for tomorrow's supper, apparently.

Orion's just written and he's being completely useless.

---

**alt_r**  
**2015-06-03 02:30:08**  
(no subject)

Unfortunate. In what ways is he being completely useless?

---

**alt_l**  
**2015-06-03 02:34:15**  
(no subject)

Ugh. He spoke to Papa, who told him he wasn't under any circumstance to speak of supper here to Mama. And he won't just give it a try, will he?

So then I asked if he would just come himself--and bring Aelis if he wanted--but he's got something else.

Oh, wait just a minute! That

---

**alt_r**  
**2015-06-03 02:38:10**  
(no subject)

They can't be faulted for their response, as it's entirely in line with their general outlook and past actions. But then you can't be faulted for being disappointed, either.

If you'd like me to have a word - with any of them - you need only say so.
Oh. I can't even-

I'm not sure now that he actually asked Papa about it.

He's made plans for that fête at Calderwoods'. Of course, supper here would ruin that. I could hex him!

Would you mind terribly, writing them? Supper could be Thursday. No, that's cards for Mama. Well, Friday then. And if he's got something then, they can come without Orion.

Only, it will be easier if he comes along. Mama will like that. They can take the carriage, and she'll find it enchanting, coming up the lane to the house.

Allow me to take it from here. You should relax and focus on doing all that would bring you pleasure.

Inigo and Isobel need only be reminded of what we share in common. Hydra and Honoria's similar paths, for example (though there may still be hope for your sister). I'll insist that they come to see with their own eyes that I've done you no harm, welcoming you into my family home until our political situation is more secure. Perhaps Orion hasn't heard of the dead enforcers, or Runge's disappearance. That may help him to see why it's so important that you take care right now.

I will be as convincing as I am able, but don't lose heart, darling, if they remain unmoved.

We have been given the chance to be together in a way that
neither of us ever thought possible. It would be folly to ask for more, so soon, and expect to get it all at once.

alt_lana at 2015-06-03 03:18:16
(no subject)

I do love you, you know. Have done since I met you. Nearly. Since our third session together here in your workroom when you showed me how to unravel the runic knot at the heart of that scarab. Do you remember? The way you looked as you worked. I was yours from that hour forward.

alt_rodolphus at 2015-06-03 03:23:58
(no subject)

I remember. You did some unraveling of your own that day.

Go run a bath, you beautiful woman. I'll come up and join you.

alt_lana at 2015-06-03 03:28:31
(no subject)

Mmmm.

Yes, please!
2015-06-02 21:35:00
Order Only: Private message to Poppy

I can't settle to anything. I'm outside by the lake watching the sun get closer to the horizon.

Poppy, please let me know. When
as soon as you know.

alt_molly

2015-06-03 02:48:57
(no subject)

Molly, the sun's only just setting.

It's too soon to tell.

alt_poppy

2015-06-03 02:50:34
(no subject)

I know. Believe me, I know.

If it's this hard for me to wait, I can't even imagine what it must be like for poor Luna.

alt_poppy

2015-06-03 02:54:09
(no subject)

If it's any comfort, the fearful anticipation is ending for her, and the all-consuming experience is beginning. It's my observation that there is relief of a very real sort when that threshold is passed.

Hold tight, Molly. It may be a while before I can write again.

alt_molly

2015-06-03 03:04:25
(no subject)

Of course. She's your first concern.

I'll be waiting.
I've hopeful news, Molly. She has not transformed.

Though the processes are clearly at work in her, the wolf has not manifested, and at this point, I feel confident it will not.

That is not to say that it's proving easy, and I expect to be here all night watching to be sure she doesn't descend to self-harm. She will continue to be acutely uncomfortable, I'm afraid, but we needn't fear she'll go into shock or suffer anything fatal as a result of this first moon.

Oh- hang on.

Oh, thank Merlin. That is hopeful. And...?

Poppy, do you think I should come there?

If that doesn't seem right, I can be there at dawn when she's let out of the room. I'm always up early anyhow.
Sorry. Sorry.

Miss Granger needed to step away. Rather abruptly. She was expecting a great deal of herself, insisting on being here to keep vigil. She managed until we saw there would be no transformation, and then, well.

She has been touched so personally by lycanthropy, one cannot but understand that it's overwhelming to witness this firsthand.

Oh, the poor girl. Of course, this must be so dreadful for her.

I saw she wrote to Draco. I hope she's gone to him; he'd undoubtedly be the best one to hold her right now.

Has Terry's presence been helpful? I hope he's managing; Fred and George were concerned for him. She hasn't attacked him in any way, has she?

He's been transformed, of course, so it's difficult to say. Or, well. He's not been cowering or cornering. No growling. There was a bit of whining, but on the whole, he appears to be managing remarkably well. At the moment that means allowing her to clutch him tightly to her. I imagine he'll have some bruising tomorrow, but no worse. So far.
Oh, goodness. I hope Sirius was right; I hope at least it's a comfort to her. I'll let the twins know. They'll be very relieved.

It's about the best we could have hoped for her, isn't it?

It is, indeed.
I hate this.

I should have taken the Commemini Acer.

Luna's in so much distress, it's awful. It looks like she'll be all right but--oh, I can't bear to watch.

But I have to do.

She hasn't transformed yet; but it might be easier for her if she did.

The worst part is that I don't think

Oh, dear. Well, I still don't think she's quite mindless enough for the Wolfsbane to be of any comfort to her at all next month.

---

I'm sorry. For both of you.

Do you want me to come up?

No, don't do that. I don't think she'd want too many people to see her like this.

Anyway, it's fairly clear there isn't going to be a modification for the potion that will help her. Unfortunately, there's almost nothing Sally-Anne and Madam P can do this month, either.

I think I'm leaving soon. Only, I feel a coward going when Terry's doing his best.
It's just, I keep wondering, was this what it was like? For them? For my father?

I don't think she's going to die, though I guess it's still possible. But Madam P and Sally-Anne think not.

'Course you are.

Did you wonder before now?

I try not to think about it.

And it's not the same for Mr Lupin, it's nothing like this. It's not anything I ever wanted t--

And I mean, I know, of course I know, that he must have been afraid and in pain and--

Well, they don't need me, I'm only in the way.

Where are you?
It's just--different. Seeing someone like this and knowing. Imagining.

And Harry was--

And we can't do anything about it.

I know, I know. I mean, not about your parents, but Harry and -

I know all about trying not to think about things.

Hermione, you're never in the way. For me, at least.

No, I mean, Luna--Sally-Anne and Madam P were talking about all the things that might help, but of course, not until next month, and she's just in there sobbing and holding the Professor and she's naked and, and....

And Harry was in pain and we couldn't do anything for him, either, and my father

Oh, WHERE ARE YOU. I can't write anymore, the ink's running anyway.
Our room.
Order Only: Private message to Hermione

Are you okay?

(It's fine you left, I think at this point we're just going to keep an eye on her to keep her safe. I think you're right that Wolfsbane, even modified, won't be much use.)

Yes, I'm all right. Well no, that's a lie but it's fine. I'm fine. Don't worry about me.

Sorry, about last night. It wasn't just about my parents. I mean, they told me that my father died of heart failure so it probably wasn't that horrible (unless they lied). But... Watching her like that made me think about how Harry must have suffered.

And then it sort of all flooded in all at once and

Do you feel sometimes like everything we've accomplished is worthless because Harry's not here to enjoy it?

Yeah.

Ron and I wound up talking last night about that, too. About Harry, I mean.

He's not here, and what happened to him was utterly awful. Both
I mean he'd have been horrified by how many people died in the battle, especially the really young kids. And the people we never properly trusted, like Zach and Megan -- you know Zach might have come out alive if he'd had the sort of training the rest of us got, even just Galleon stuff. But he should be here to see what we're creating. He should have been an Auror with Ron and Draco, a proper Auror for our side instead of the sort of Auror who specialises in bullying and cruciatus. He should have seen you tell all the galleon people that you MADE those galleons. He should be here when the wards come down and the Sleepers wake and

Harry talked to you and Draco before, right? You got to say goodbye to him?

We did, but it wasn't--that didn't make it any easier.

And I know this is what he wanted. I know he made his choice freely, willingly, and that he felt it was worth it for the rest of us to have just this sort of future. If we could ask him, he'd say it was a bargain well struck.

Only. It's never really going to be right, is it.

Is Luna all right? And Terry?

Back when Dolores Umbridge was Headmistress, we had a YPL game where we got to hex each other and steal armbands, it would've actually been quite a bit of fun if she hadn't decided to try to make sure all the half-bloods started at a disadvantage so we couldn't possibly win. Justin and I had the idea to cooperate and make sure Luna won, and it worked, but afterward she summoned us all up to her office and threatened to cruciate Ron until the person who'd thought it up confessed.

But before Justin and I could say anything Harry said it was him, even though it wasn't. Because he knew there was really no limit to the horrible things Umbridge could do to me, or even to Justin,
but she couldn't cruciate him or do anything else that would cause permanent damage.

I still felt so guilty. She made him write 'lines' with this horrible quill that cut him as he wrote.

And -- I know it was his choice. That time. And this time. That time, he didn't have any real idea what the consequences would be, other than that it wouldn't be cruciatus. This time, he knew, and it didn't matter. I know he'd say it was worth it, I mean it all worked, it worked perfectly. He killed Voldemort and Ron destroyed that last horcrux and it worked.

I just wish

I don't know

I wish we could have him back.

Anyway, Luna is okay. She came out at dawn and cried on Colin's shoulder and then I think they went off to her room to get some rest. Terry turned back into a person and I think he went off somewhere to sleep, too.
Everything alright in there?

Only, I see you're writing Hermione, but she was going to be in there with you, right? What's happened? No one's been hurt, have they?

---

No, things are going about as well as you could expect. Luna hasn't transformed, she's not dead or anything like that.

Hermione left because she had the information she needed, really, which was whether Wolfsbane might help Luna in some modified form (no) and she was pretty upset, because of course it was making her think about what her father went through. And her mother.

As well as you could expect sounds fairly dire by that report.

I'm sorry for Hermione.

I mean, I'm sorry for Luna, too, obviously, but, yeah.

Yeah. I'm glad Hermione left, honestly. It's hard to watch. I mean, it's hard enough for me to watch -- at one point we thought she was going to actually transform, and that clearly hurt. I was sort of watching Hermione, too, though, because I knew this was making her really upset.

Mostly Luna's been pacing. Which is actually what a werewolf (a transforming werewolf) will do if they're shut alone in a room and
haven't had wolfsbane. Well sometimes they also tear at themselves. (If they've had wolfsbane they'll usually just go to sleep. I mean, unless they work nights, when they're not transformed.)

**alt_ron** at 2015-06-03 04:11:29  
(no subject)

So why is it that she can't have wolfsbane? Not this time, obviously, but why do Hermione and Madam P think she won't be able to take it next month? If it'd make her go to sleep, that'd be good, yeah?

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-03 04:15:29  
(no subject)

Well, the thing about Wolfsbane is that it lets you keep your mind when you transform. It's not that she's lost hers, not the way a transformed werewolf does. She's clearly Luna, just very agitated and stressed.

She looks a little like someone who did a lot of Dark Magic and is now feeling completely beside themselves, like sometimes you do. Except turned up to eleven.

Anyway, we think that the Wolfsbane wouldn't help. (Also, it's not that it makes them go to sleep, it's more that it lets them keep their minds so they can do what they'd normally do at night, which is sleep.) A sleeping potion might be something to try, actually, especially a really strong one, although werewolves metabolise potions differently... anyway.

**alt_ron** at 2015-06-03 04:25:39  
(no subject)

They do? I mean, the way you said that- you mean it's unpredictable how a potion will work on her? That's dead jolly, isn't it?

So...
What was it like when she was about to transform? You said it looked like it was going to happen. And that it looked like it hurt.

Was it

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-03 04:52:51
(no subject)

I'm here as a Healer so I don't think I should tell you specifics.

But, do you know what happens when a werewolf transforms? It's painful, not like -- well, I assume the animagus transformation isn't painful? None of the books say it's painful. Their joints separate, which hurts quite a bit -- did you ever dislocate a shoulder or elbow, riding your broom when you were little? (Most of the Slytherin Quidditchers had accidents like that at some point.) Also, their skin bubbles up to re-form itself and their bones shift. It's supposed to be worst the first time.

Anyway she didn't transform so not all those things happened. But the worst part was definitely watching Luna, because

Well obviously she's scared. Who wouldn't be? And it hurt. And there's nothing any of us can do, not this month anyway.

alt_ron at 2015-06-03 05:11:42
(no subject)

Yeah.

Watching's hard. But not as hard as for Luna, going through it-

At Eton. When Harry was-

They'd bound him so he couldn't move at all, but the curse was doing horrible things to him. I don't even know how he kept that from You Know Who, but he did. I guess it was- He just thought it was fear. And it was that, too. Harry was dead afraid. I could taste it, y'know? But he was also coming apart
in bits on the inside, and it was worse than anything I've ever
smelled. Or not smelled, exactly, but-

Doesn't matter. The thing was his face. Harry's, I mean. Once I'd got out of his robes and onto Neville, I could see him.

When He started pulling Harry's soul out, it hurt. Worse than the curse, and he was scared. So scared, Sally Anne. I've never seen anything like that. And then, just in an instant it stopped and he was gone. His eyes went empty and his mouth was- I dunno. Limp.

And then He went into Harry and I could see... it was like everything stretched and broke and came back together. And he still looked like Harry but also didn't. Really, really didn't. The jaw was wrong. And his nose. And the shape of his eyes? I mean, the way he held them open? It was the worst thing I've ever seen.

That's what I dream now. You know?

It makes me go cold just thinking about it. And I can still smell it all. How wrong it smelled.

That sounds utterly horrific. No wonder you have bad dreams.

Yeah, well. I guess we've all got our reasons for having them, huh?

So... do you have to stay up there all night with Madam P?
No, we're going to trade off shifts. Do you want me to come down? I'll need to try to sleep for a few hours and then I'll have to get up again so Madam P can go sleep.

Oh. Yeah, do come down. Just to sleep. I mean, that's what we should both do.

And --

yeah, a werewolf transformation is a little bit like that. Someone you know, but then something terrifying happens to them and it's not them anymore.

It's not exactly like that with Luna. Which is both better and worse. Because I'm seeing someone I know and like suffering.

If you'd stayed to watch, which obviously I'm glad you didn't, you'd have seen Him suffer from the curse. And die, horribly.

Yeah.

I've thought about that. The thing is it still looked so much like Harry (only wrong), that it would've been too hard to watch that curse take him. Take them both. I'd've--

I don't know. It's just, Harry was--
I really miss him, y'know?

Everytime I go off now to do something for Brodie, I think about what it would be like to have him going out, too. He'd be- Well, it's not that he'd be better at it, but he was brilliant at winding himself up to do things that needed doing. And we could really use some of that now. We could really bloody use that.

And after.

We could talk, y'know?

Sorry.

I'm

[@alt_sally_anne](no subject)

Yeah.

He'd have been brilliant as an Auror, one of our Aurors instead of one of theirs.

It's not

I don't know

It's sort of ridiculous saying it's not fair because there are eight million things that aren't fair. Losing Harry, losing Neville, losing Daphne, losing Mr Snape, all of it.

[@alt_sally_anne](no subject)

Anyway, I'm coming down.
Order Only: Private message to Colin Creevey and Kingsley Shacklebolt

Colin,

I haven't seen Madam Pomfrey write to you. I imagine Hermione spoke with you when she came out, but in case she left a little abruptly, I wanted to pass on to you what Poppy just wrote to me.

She said that Luna hasn't transformed, and she believes she will survive the night. She said it's about the best outcome we could have hoped to see.

I'm so sorry. I know how hard it is to wait. I'll come to the room just before dawn so I can be there as she's released. But if you want company during the night, send me a Patronus, and I'll come earlier.

Courage, Colin. She will be all right.

Thank you, Mrs Weasley.

Hermione did say she did say she thought Luna'd live through it. She looked just

Which is good to hear.

I keep knocking four times every now and then. Just to let her know I'm still there.
2015-06-03 11:02:00
Order Only: Private message to Mrs and Mr Longbottom

You know that room full of papers and things that Rachel and Bill and everyone brought back here from the Ministry? Rachel asked me and Honoria to start going through all of it and we've been working on it. There was this locked cabinet I finally got open this morning that's full of wands, tagged with their owner.

One of them is tagged 'LONGBOTTOM N, 23DEC1997, CHERRY/ UNICORN.' I'll bring it up to your office but I just wanted to let you know it's here and we found it.

There are also wands for loads of the people we liberated from Azkaban, like Astra Morgansen and Doria Hibbings.

Aloysius Archer's wand is here, too.

alt_alice at 2015-06-03 17:26:44
(no subject)
Thank you, Ginny.

alt_alice at 2015-06-03 17:31:56
(no subject)
If you'll pass the news along to Wayne at dinner tonight, I'm sure he can make deliveries to the Azkaban rescues.

As far as Aloysius... that will be significantly more complicated. We might ask Susan to talk to Aurelia, or I can see what Cerys has in mind.
It's not just Aloysius Archer. There are a lot of wands here. Honoria's been making a list. Some of them belong to people we rescued. Some of them belong to people we didn't rescue because they were dangerous criminals. Some of them belonged to people who died who were on our side, some belonged to people who died and were on our side but were from horrible families, some of them belonged to people who died who were our enemies ... anyway.

I know we have a lot of people who need wands.

Oh and some of these wands are dead, at least judging from the way they feel when we pick them up. But others feel like they really want a new owner, you know?

There is certainly a need for it, yes.

And there's something to be said for giving these wands a new chance, a new life, as it were.

he'd want that.

I'm sure of it.

that, and the best damn garden you ever saw.

Yes.

I know he would. It's just

It's hard. Not having
Not laying him to rest.

You're right. His wand ought to go to someone who needs it.

@alt_frank at 2015-06-03 17:33:48
(no subject)

thanks for letting us know.
It's difficult to write about the diary because there are parts of that year I don't remember well at all, and then other parts that I remember vividly.

I already had this journal and was able to use it for the first time. I was excited to talk to people, maybe even make friends, but looking back the things I wrote about were peculiar. Lots of random observations and odd questions. (Maybe that's why, a few years later, I was invited to a club called The Tea of the Strange.) Writing here was nice enough. I got to keep in touch with Daddy and talk to Harry and Draco, and even got to know some new people, like Sally Anne Perks and Ron Weasley. On a few occasions I exchanged comments with a muggleborn girl who was then owned by Harry Marvolo (Potter). I was shocked to learn that muggleborns could read and write. Mummy loathed muggleborns, wouldn't even think of having them in the house. She felt that they tainted the environment in some way, and filled my head with a lot of wholly inaccurate notions about them.

Because of my mother's very strong opinions I never wrote too openly in this journal. I knew she could read every word, and that she would file away every detail, whether she commented on it or not.

I probably made some kind of passive complaint about it in front of Harry, because he later gave me an old diary and told me I could write in it, instead, if I wanted to write my thoughts where no one could see them. The diary was given to Harry by his father, but Harry wasn't too interested in it.

I was very interested in it, nearly from the start. Not just because it was a place for writing secret thoughts, but because the diary wrote back to me.

I thought the diary must be charmed, at first. To function as a friendly but harmless companion, maybe. But the more the diary wrote to me, the more I understood it as a real person. He was a boy, quite a bit older than I, who had gone to Hogwarts a long time ago. He was very well-spoken but there was something sad and a little bit lonely in his words. I wanted him to tell me everything about himself, so I told him everything about me. I told him things I never told anyone, and will probably never tell anyone again.
Each time I opened up to him, he would open up a tiny bit, too. I learned that he was an orphan. That he was afraid certain professors didn't like him. They were tiny, sparkling bits that I was able to add to my growing idealisation of him - which, of course, was just what he wanted. He wanted me in a state where I would do anything for him, and soon enough, that's just where I was.

That's when I started forgetting things. And that's when the Basilisk starting attacking people in the school.

Even when I started to suspect there was something wrong with me, and that there was something off about the boy, I didn't want to stop writing. I didn't want to lose the only person I had ever shown myself to.

I never did push him away, and by the time I really, truly wanted to, there wasn't enough of me left to do it. So I had to be saved, that time. By Harry and his friends.

I will always be grateful to Harry. To the people who helped me come back to myself. I think I might even be grateful to that boy, for teaching me lessons that were crucial in the years that came after. They are lessons that I wish I could have passed along to certain friends of mine, but unfortunately, some things only stick when you experience them first hand.

That diary is gone now. I'm using this one, instead.

---

@alt_hermione at 2015-06-03 19:23:13
(no subject)

It was rather horrible and ridiculous, the things your mother told you about muggleborns. But at least it was just stories, not like how Nott wanted to see if my blood was actually brown like mud. And once you realised all those things were lies, you weren't ever mean or cruel. Not like some people!
I know, and you've not even heard all of them. Teddy's curiosity was sort of understandable, since he was probably taught the same things. But even after seeing that it wasn't brown he didn't change his way of thinking. Except to evolve into a more disgusting person.

Good thing he's dead.

Guilty as charged. Slow learner, here.

You got better, too. It just took you a little longer.

But then, you're also a boy.

I'm pretty sure the word you meant to use is "man."
Possibly. Maybe the word I meant to use was pillock.

That also sometimes applies.

Why do you both tease each other? Not that Justin and I never do but, you don't usually like being called a pillock. Is it a trust thing, of sorts, where you're proving you can both say anything to each other?

There's nothing to prove there. Every once and a while I say something deliberately arrogant to her, and she gets to deliberately put me in my place.

It plays out differently when I say something accidentally arrogant - but that still happens, too.

Anyway, it's just for a laugh, and only once and a while. Would get old if I did it too much.
alt_hydra at 2015-06-03 21:06:03
Re: Private message to Draco

Oh yes, I've seen you be accidentally arrogant.

alt_hermione at 2015-06-04 01:20:25
Private Message to Draco

Good luck tonight.

Come home, okay? In one piece if possible.

I don't have brewing to do overnight, but I thought I'd sit up and read.

alt_draco at 2015-06-04 01:23:16
Re: Private Message to Draco

I will.

Love you, journeywoman.

alt_hermione at 2015-06-04 01:29:00
Re: Private Message to Draco

Me, too, Auror-'man.'

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-03 20:26:51
(no subject)

I wish I'd talked to you more, that year.

I could tell you were nothing like your mother, but I was still afraid that if I got close to you, that might put me in danger from your mother.

Also, being a half-blood in Slytherin was just complicated. (At least, being a fostered half-blood was complicated. Things might have been different for Milli.)
I'm STILL terrified of your mother, mind you. But I'm also pretty certain these days -- well I mean, she'd kill me, but she'd kill loads of other people first, if they were in the room.

I think it's easy to feel that she's not as dangerous now, because there's no one here who's going to call her in and have her interrogate someone.

But she's still out there. And we have no idea what she's doing. Which in some ways is worse, maybe?

Basılısk.

One A. Two Is.

Thank you.

I fixed it.
Private Message to Horace Slughorn, MBNSP

Professor,

(I hope it's all right to call you that. I'm sorry, I have trouble calling someone 'Master' after so many years and even though it's a different context. But 'Potioneer' just sounds silly.)

I thought I would formally report that it did not appear Wolfsbane or any modification to it would make much impact on Miss Lovegood's affliction. I observed for nearly an hour around the time when she would have transformed, and while it was clear she was suffering significant impairment to her cognitive function, it was not so debilitating nor so wolfish as to suggest that the properties of the potion would be at all efficacious. There were some markedly animalistic tendencies in her affect, however, and I believe that rather than an aconite-based potion, one with a root in Junellia and Pueraria may prove beneficial.

Unfortunately, this project will have to wait until more pressing matters are attended, to wit, the completion of our production of anti-Sleeper preparation. I shall be working this morning on calculating the precise proportions for higher volumes of restorative in a single batch. I believe if we are able to scale the batch sizes, while successfully titrating the ingredient proportions, we will achieve both a higher consistency of final product and conserve some of the more limited resources at our disposal until such time as the potions gardens here and at other secure locations can be harvested.

I would greatly appreciate additional assistance in both brewing the proposed regressions, once they are ready, and testing them against the control batches that Severus and I had made prior to the battle for Hogwarts. If you could kindly provide the names of those students whom you recall having reasonable skill at ingredient preparation and basic brewing capacity, who are either here helping or who might be available to return and help, that would aid the cause and speed the process considerably.

Better yet, if you are so inclined as to ask them yourself, that might avoid wasting time unnecessarily, as well as any unpleasant and equally unnecessary whinging they might raise about working for a
Muggleborn.

Thank you,

Journeywoman Granger
Lads,

I say, if you're free, the salle is (for once!) not engaged. Hydra and I thought we'd set up some advanced drills. Randomise the turnings, the protective spells, that sort of thing.

We might invite a few of the trainees later today, what, once we've run the course a couple times and know its surprises. Towler definitely needs to run every day; and have you noticed that Archer always drops her shoulder just before she fires? I say, we'll have to work on that.

Interested? Or are you still digesting lunch?

-J

Sure. Count me in.
2015-06-03 13:13:00
Order Only: Private message to Aurors Weasley, Malfoy, and H and J Finch-Fletchley

Have any of you lot ever been to Snowdonia? It's this excessively charming little resort in Wales, run by Maebh Drumgoole, where wizards can go muggle hunting for a lark. (Or sometimes they hunt interesting creatures.)

alt_rachel

alt_justin at 2015-06-03 18:25:57
(no subject)

Rachel,

Been there, no. I say, I've heard of the place, though, of course.

-Justin

alt_hydra at 2015-06-03 18:38:55
(no subject)

No. I was supposed to go on Cadmus Mulciber's invitation, but I said I was training with Crouch, instead. And then, later, Crouch really did schedule a training session.

But that was the excursion where Percy was killed. Seamus and Padma were there, I know, along with a number of other people.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-03 18:41:55
(no subject)

Padma! Of course.

Are you free? If you're not, all I'm really looking for is a map and layout information; I think she's unlikely to lie.
Some of us were going to run drills in the salle. I can come along with you, but I think you're right, and she's probably not going to lie.

Go run drills. If I think she's withholding anything, I'll have her take veritaserum.

Save some energy for tonight, though. (That goes for all of you.)

Yes, quite.

Yeah. That's what I was going to say. I haven't been there, but Percy went.

I'll go if you're sending us up against Drumgoole. Who knows, maybe it'll be good to have a snake along. I hear erumpents are afraid of us. If she's got any of those.

I'm afraid of you.

Snakes, that is, not yours in particular.
She very well might.

I'll track down Professor Grubbly-Plank after I talk to Patil. See if she'd like to come along in the second wave, once we've got the place secured.
2015-06-03 14:15:00
Order Only: Private message to Walden Macnair

I'm taking my Field Team to Snowdonia tonight. We're going to arrest Maebh, if we can, and free the muggles. Not quite sure what we're going to do with Maebh's exotic animals, but if you'd like to come along, maybe you could be the one to figure that out.

alt_macnair at 2015-06-03 19:35:57
(no subject)

Am I the zookeeper, now?

alt_rachel at 2015-06-03 19:37:38
(no subject)

I've invited Mina along as well, but I'd prefer to have a backup in case one of you gets gored by an erumpent or something.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-03 19:40:10
(no subject)

I have no idea what sort of beasts and beings Maebh has on site at present, but some of them may not be confined, or may be confined in such a way that she'll be able to set them loose before we can subdue her.

So I'm not sure 'zookeeper' is really the word we're looking for here, in any case.
Snowdonia wasn't a hunting resort when I was on the council, so I can't give you any intel there. Unless they're in need or rehabilitation or are highly useful to us, the creatures ought to be returned to their natural habitat.

My two knuts.

I agree completely. Will you and Mina be able to get them back there?

Depends on what we find. But if they were brought in, they can probably be brought out.

Doesn't sound too bad.
Thank you to those who stopped by to see how I'm doing. I'm feeling better now, and I expect I'll be in the Great Hall at dinner.

Sally-Anne told me that you were in the observation room, too. Thank you. I know it must have been very difficult.

Remus Lupin has told me that it gets easier. I think next time it will be, because I won't be quite so frightened.

I'm sure it will be.

And I'm glad you're feeling better.

Our talk helped a lot. Well, and the crying on your shoulder, too. (I can't believe how much I've cried this month. It's something I hardly ever do.)

Thank you so much; you've no idea. Lavender has been rather different since everything happened, but it's still a relief to know I won't ever have to go back to the Browns.

You never will, dear.

Oh, I'm glad we talked, too. Arthur would be so
happy to know you'll be coming home to the Burrow from now on.
I'll look for you at dinner.

@alt_luna at 2015-06-03 22:28:26
Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey, Sally-Anne Perks and Hermione Granger

The pain potion that Madam Pomfrey gave me seems to have helped. I am still terribly groggy (and stupid) but the ache in my bones is certainly less now.

I napped most of the day. I don't think it will keep me from sleeping tonight, though.

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-03 22:41:12
Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey, Sally-Anne Perks and Hermione Granger

Napping the day after the full moon is very much the thing to do.

Madam Pomfrey and I talked about potions for next month; there are several potions for nerve pain that might ease your discomfort, although it may take a few tries to hit on the one that will help you the most.

@alt_luna at 2015-06-03 22:50:54
Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey, Sally-Anne Perks and Hermione Granger

I suppose there isn't much in the medical literature about people like me, is there? Almost werewolves.

Well, I don't think I could be in any better hands, and if it takes awhile to find something that works, that's just what needs to happen.
Sirius was right. It did help. It helped enormously. I can't remember very much about last night, but I do remember that having you there was very comforting.

Madam Pomfrey said that it doesn't seem that the Wolfsbane will be able to help me, since I don't actually transform. But perhaps there might be some sleeping potions they could try next time. Perhaps I won't need you on future full moons then. (Not that I'm assuming you'll be there, though!)

Remus told me that it does get easier.

I'm glad that having me there helped. And if it did, it stands to reason I should be there next time, doesn't it? At least until they get the potions sorted out and you know they'll work.

I wasn't sure you'd want to do it again, since--

And I wasn't sure I--

You were very tactful this morning, waiting until I had clothes on again before changing back. I'm sorry, Terry, I had no idea I would do that. But my skin felt as if it were on fire, and it was just instinctive, I guess.

I'm blushing, just writing this
alt_terry at 2015-06-03 22:47:47
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

Oh, I see.

Luna...I don't notice those sorts of things when I'm the Professor, honest. I rely mostly on smell, you see. My mind perceives clothing like...like it's some kind of fur. Harsh fur, soft fur, no fur. Not any more personal than that. And I would *never* tell anybody.

alt_luna at 2015-06-03 22:52:03
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

I don't embarrass easily, really. But as I wrote to Remus today, there really isn't any dignity in this at all, is there?

alt_terry at 2015-06-03 22:57:16
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

I understand, Luna. Truly I do.

I don't know if you ever heard the story about what Alecto Carrow did to me once? It happened the year before you started at Hogwarts, I think.

She made my clothes fall off me in the Great Hall. All of them. In front of the entire student body, at dinner.

So you see, I know *exactly* how it feels, being naked in front of people when you don't want or intend to be.

alt_luna at 2015-06-03 22:58:36
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

Oh.

Perhaps I'd heard that story, but I'd forgot.

You do understand.
alt_terry at 2015-06-03 23:00:52
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

Yes. So you see? It's safe to have me there. And if I do help you, I think I should be.
ORDER ONLY Private message to Alice, Siz, and Evelyn

Just got back from Stornoway. We're fairly sure we've got a final census by now, at least of our regulars -- the ones who are tagged and tracked, if not the ones who live on the reserve. (There's a few who are tagged and tracked who roam wider, and we occasionally see drop-ins when they're very hungry or during mating season, but ... oh, you don't need me to go on about things.)

We started out the year with 21 dragons -- it had been 25 before the winter solstice, but we lost a few at that point. Seven died within the first 24 hours after the Lord Pretender did, and another three since -- Greensleeves and Copacahuana from injury, and Thor just died and none of us could figure out why. (Although he was one of the ones who was used in the original wards, and we're all a bit suspicious about that.) So we've got eleven, now. (Merlin. We had twenty-five a year ago. Seeing it written all out like that is just heartbreaking.)

Siz, since you said Rookwood would probably ask -- no, not all of them were the ones used for the original wards. Most of the ones who died were older. There's five of the original ward-dragons left. I can give you the list next time I see you.

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Draconic Mysteries (me, Dree, Thomas, Annelise, Sasha, and Marcus, with whoever wanders in while we're sitting in the mess hall and calmly and rationally discussing the implications of draconic power channeling and the influence it has on our kids) (which is to say, pounding on the table, spluttering a lot, and repeating "what the actual fuck", of course) has agreed that we are willing to entertain the notion of doing what Rookwood wants to do, since none of us are really big on the idea of waking up one morning and finding the country has cracked in two and Hogwarts is now oceanfront property, but we need a hell of a lot more information first. Verifiable information, with calculations that our people can repeat. We're willing to accept that we might lose a few more of our kids in the process, if we absolutely have to, but we want assurances that it'll work first and a good sense of what the risk is.

And you can tell him that he's not getting his team back any time soon, thank you very much. Dree says she's going to keep them for cross-correlating what Rookwood tells us -- ask them questions and
see if they give the same answers. We'll release them if and when we get enough information out of them, and once the Order determines whether or not they're going to stand trial.

That's about it, I think. Oh, and Siz and Evelyn, Dree has invited you two up to come along on rounds and get a sense of what's normal and what's not for the dragons. She says it'll probably help you with Rookwood.

Alice, Rachel has invited me to also go out on the Snowdonia raid tonight in case they need more hands with the creatures they find there, so I'll probably be back late, but I want to grab you and talk about the castle repair team a bit. Vector has been making increasingly worried noises about some of the south wing. And we've been starting to have more and more personal conflicts between people who have been cooped up in the castle on the work crews -- I think we need to start really enforcing Days of Rest, No Work, And Get The Fuck Out Of Here. I've got another dozen minor things, but those are the two big ones.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-06-03 22:44:44
(no subject)

Going on rounds would be -

Thank you. Yes. I'm glad she thought of it. Evelyn, I assume you're interested.

The list would be a help. I'm not inclined to give him all the details yet, unless necessary, but I'd like to have whatever we have so that if it becomes relevant, I don't need to hunt someone down. (Names, ages, breeds, all that. I suppose there's no telling what will be relevant, and that's a kind of data arithmancy I'm fairly good at.)

Anyway. Timing. Um. Today's the 3rd. Tomorrow or Friday would be fine, but I'm basically assuming I'll be entirely useless over the weekend, and maybe Monday too.

We can't afford it, but we also can't afford me making stupid mistakes, so.
@alt_evelyn at 2015-06-03 23:15:49  
(no subject)

I'd certainly be willing to come up on Thursday and stay over the weekend, to continue observations if we need a few continuous days worth.

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-05 02:02:34  
(no subject)

Sorry, I was asleep pretty much all day and then once I woke up I kept getting distracted.

I sent up the list for you, you should have it by now. Tomorrow will work, I'll grab you and Ev over lunch?

And I'm sorry, I did forget we were coming up on the anniversary. If you'd like to postpone this until after Monday, that's fine. I don't think this is urgent, it's more just "more information might help at some point".

@alt_sinistra at 2015-06-05 02:05:38  
(no subject)

Let's aim for tomorrow at lunch.

It'd be enough to give me a feel and some things to think about, and if I need to go back to see something, well, we can sort it out then.

And - thanks. Don't really expect anyone else to remember, you know? Only there's also no reason for anyone to put up with me being snappish. I've got some plans might help, just better I avoid anything that requires my brain working.

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-05 02:14:26  
Private message to Siz

If you want to talk to somebody, I've got an ear and a shoulder and I don't mind using them. I don't know if it's the kind of thing where it'd be more helpful to talk to somebody who knew him or somebody who didn't know him at all.
And I'll drop a word in Dree's ear about what you're dealing with, so she knows at least. She isn't the most tactful person in the world, but she's pretty good at not stepping on wounds when she knows they're there, you know?

@alt_sinistra at 2015-06-05 02:21:14
Re: Private message to Siz

Appreciate the thought. Might take you up on it.

Besides, it's not like talking to the people who knew him's actually an option, you know?

(And I'll spare you the stock rant, but it's not like most of the people who knew him knew the parts I knew, or treated him well, so. When I say that for a long time, Barty was the friend of his who actually treated him like a competent adult, you might begin to get the idea.)

I've got plans to talk to to my favourite brother Sunday, I think. Somewhere quiet.

I'm not going to do anything stupid or anything. Just no need to make things difficult here, and I know from experience better to not be around people for a bit while I sort myself out.

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-05 02:30:36
Re: Private message to Siz

Eh, you don't need to be on the verge of doing something stupid to want to unload on somebody who isn't going to judge. (And I'm not going to judge! I have better shit to do in life and I sort of figure everyone around me is an adult who has good reasons for making the decisions they make, so how about I just make you a cup of tea and listen for a bit instead of wasting my time being a judgemental dipshit.)

Spending time with your favourite brother sounds like a grand idea. As is taking some time to be kind to yourself. Just grab me if you want some company before then, we don't even need to talk or anything. I've got plenty of stuff that doesn't need a
brain if you just want something to occupy your hands and wand.

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-05 02:36:34
Re: Private message to Siz

Are you certain you're not a badger?

No, never mind, I've heard you going on about your dragons. Definitely a lion, the way you talk about the dangerous bits.

I think I'm for the top of the tower for a bit, and some stars, but if that doesn't work, I'll come down and find you.

Also. I

I didn't say this last summer, couldn't find the words.

But your brother, Percy. He saved Raz's life, gave us time to have each other, the time we could. I'm not one to forget that, or that people are all sorts of complicated, and remembering the good bits is important. And that was a very good, and very brave, and very big thing. What comes after doesn't change that.

alt_charlie at 2015-06-05 02:52:28
Re: Private message to Siz

The Hat offered me Hufflepuff or Gryffindor, actually -- don't repeat that, I've only ever told one other person -- but, well, you've met my family, so Gryffindor it was!

And, yeah, Percy. Percy was hard. We're not an easy family to be quiet and bookish in, and that plus being stubborn as a rock -- which is a common trait -- and a load of influence at the wrong time ... well. We never talked about it, but I think the Hat must have offered him Slytherin or Gryffindor, because he was one of the most ambitious people I ever knew, and he made the same choice I did. (Probably for the same reasons.) But he did have those moments of charging straight forward to do the necessary thing, it's just that he was pointing it in the wrong direction most of the time. And with the wrong
people.

Anyway. Sorry. You don't want to hear me nattering on about Percy. Just, you know, thanks for saying that. It does help a little, to know it.

I'm down in the west wing, fourth floor by the caved-in corridor -- they finished analysing what bits of it are holding up the rest of it today, so I'm clearing out some of the non-essential bits. I'll be here a while if you want company.

@alt_sinistra at 2015-06-05 03:08:00
Re: Private message to Siz

I won't tell anyone. And I know what it's like to have it be the whole family. (The Hat thought about Ravenclaw for me, but - yeah. I have theories about the Hat. I think anyone who spends more than a year or two teaching here does.)

I can see that, about Percy. I've got a few other good stories about him, I can tell you sometime, if you want. Because yes, the stories help.

And oh. About the volunteers. Thank you for doing it. There's a lot of things, the YPL, I'm so not the right person to do it, for all sorts of reasons now, but it matters that it gets done right, by someone who sees all the things people won't say.

Though now I think of it, I should probably tell you a bit about the YPL, so you know what things might make anyone who went through it touchy, and why. I did my best with it, but it there's a lot of places that wasn't near enough, and I - yeah. One of those 'everything related to it poisoned now' sorts of problems.

You can probably expect me in an hour, I think. We're getting clouds, and yeah, talking might be good. Or not talking and doing something useful.
Re: Private message to Siz

I'll be up until the wee hours again today, no doubt -- we all walk 'round the clock three times a month at least for shift coverage, so I know how to do it quickly, and for me the best way to get back on a day schedule after I woke up at dinnertime is to just stay up until dinnertime the next day. So just find me whenever, I'll be here for a while. (Unless the ravenous beast wakes up -- I told the elves to come find me instead of waking Tonks if he does, since I'm awake anyway. But if I'm not here when you come down, just hang on, he tends to go straight back down after he eats.)

And, yeah. I can tell there's past trauma there, and a bunch of factions I don't quite understand. I've mostly been dealing with it by telling all of them they can refuse to be partnered up with somebody if they need to, they can refuse to do a particular job I send them to do if they need to, but they have to tell me in advance if they can't work with someone they're assigned to work with and if they don't tell me by the time they start the shift, they have to at least find some way to get along and cooperate long enough to finish what they're doing. And then being very aggressive about shooting down any instances of people stepping on sore spots deliberately, and trying to show them it's okay if something hits them partway through their shift and they need to go sit down in a corner and shake for a bit and anybody who's an arse about it gets the worst job on the list tomorrow. It was a bit bumpy at first, but it's getting a bit smoother now, at least.

Really the biggest problem is the ones who aren't sure what they're going to do next, and they're too scared to look ahead because they've had the carpet yanked out from under them too many times already. But I just keep telling them, we're going to need people for a long damn time, and I will personally make sure that everybody finds something they can do for as long as I'm in charge of wrangling them, and I think they're starting to believe me a little at least.
alt_alice at 2015-06-04 01:01:22
(no subject)

That sounds reasonable on all counts. Thank you, love.

I'll see if we can't shift some funds Vector's way. And yes. We can be rather firm about it starting Saturday.

alt_alice at 2015-06-04 01:14:37
(no subject)

And love, if the youth programme business takes up too much time, feel free to shift some of it to Tonks too.

alt_charlie at 2015-06-05 02:14:51
(no subject)

No, I'm fine, really. Busy, but we're all busy. And this is the kind of thing I'm good at, so I might as well keep doing it. (Almost chucked one of them in the lake yesterday, but really, it's just that they're all scared and mourning and overworking in the hopes that they'll be able to beat the nightmares and not having it work, and exhaustion and lack of sleep and nightmares and uncertainty and a lot of having their world yanked out from under their feet -- for good or for bad -- is always a recipe for disaster. It's a rare day when I don't find one of 'em sitting on some available surface and giving the horizon the thousand yard stare, but we're getting to know each other and I'm hoping I'll get a few of them to open up to me over time.)

Anyway, I don't know what I would do with myself if I wasn't this busy. And Tonks is just as busy as I am, if not more, so I'm not going to load more on her. We're both lucky that Adam doesn't mind getting chucked in the baby wrap and toted all around. (And having a baby strapped to your chest is a good way to get some of these kids to talk to me, anyway.)
2015-06-03 18:11:00
Order only: Private message to Rachel

I'm sorry I didn't wake up before you left the bed this morning. I was burning the midnight candle toiling over interviews and personnel lists, and I didn't want to wake you when I came in last night because I knew you were so tired from the night before and--

Some day we'll manage to catch up with each other and have an actual conversation.

Wake me up if you finish with Snowdonia in time to make it back sometime tonight, all right? Even if it's the wee hours. I might be sitting up with Mum rather late. She happened to hear Alice tell Frank about tonight's mission, and it made her start thinking about Percy, you see, and that's been rather difficult. But I'm sure I won't be up as late tonight as you.

I love you. I heard Frank say today that you're doing a bang-up job at least. It'd be nice to see you so I can bask in some of that reflected glory.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 01:08:32
(no subject)

I know! I feel like we haven't been awake and in the same room in about six months. If you don't mind being woken, I'll be happy to wake you. Though possibly I'll arrive home right around the time you're getting out of bed for breakfast.

Anyway, give Molly my best. Percy was one of many who have died at Snowdonia. It'll be nice to see some justice for all of them.
2015-06-03 19:41:00
Private message to Miss Minx

If you and your team are currently headed to where I am tonight, a courtesy notice would be tremendously kind of you.

alt_jason

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 01:44:13
(no subject)

I am not sure where you're spending the evening -- should I know? -- but I am confident our social plans do not overlap.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 01:44:53
(no subject)

That said, if you notice anyone making a sudden departure from your location, I'd appreciate a quick word!

alt_jason at 2015-06-04 01:49:23
(no subject)

I am, at the moment, planning to be quite pissed for the majority of the evening.

But, I do have sober-up potions on me.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 01:50:23
(no subject)

Hopefully you won't need them.
But I want to see you again.

And yet you didn't invite me to your party! Was it something I said?

I don't think you'd fit in.

I think you are most likely correct!

On the other hand, I fit quite nicely inside you

Oh, soz. Got to go.

Later, Minx
Gents and Ladies,

Kindly meet at 7:00 tomorrow morning at the duelling salle. We've rearranged the course and added a few new surprises. I hope you'll enjoy it.

Ron, Draco, Hydra and I have a job with our other regulars tonight, what, so we may not be back (or we may not be awake), but we'll join you as soon as we can do.

-Finch-Fletchley
2015-06-03 20:13:00
Private message to my Aurors and Enforcers

Right, Field Team. Meet me at the apparation point in ten minutes. Surely you've always wished you could go hunting at Snowdonia, if only you could truly choose your quarry.

alt_rachel

2015-06-04 01:52:44
Order Only: Private message to Auror Malfoy

Jason Montague wants to make sure we're not crashing his party. I'm not sure exactly where that party is happening, but if there is a group at Snowdonia I'm strongly inclined to cancel. Let me know what you find.
The creatures' paddock is located just where Padma said, about as far from the lodge as can be. Coming in no doubt set off the boundary wards, so I opened the paddock to cover my entry and flew South. The muggles are probably in the out building near the paddocks, but I couldn't count them. No windows.

I spotted five people heading down to the paddocks as I left. A combination of security and game-handlers, is my guess.

Initial sweep of the lodge shows sixteen. More staff than guests, from the looks of it.

The out building on the Eastern slope was empty but all the lights were blazing. Probably where the game handlers live.

The watch stations we saw - there's four of them - have a single warden each.

There's a barracks in a clearing behind the Northern lake shore with three maintenance workers.

The people I saw walking near the lodge were security, on patrol. I counted three but may have missed some.

Didn't see too many animals out in the open. Glimpsed one I mistook for an over-sized house elf, but I think it was a daraliznof freaazer.

I'm certain all the buildings are warded to some degree, the lodge more heavily so.

Right. Hydra and Ron, take the rest of your unit and move in to clear the lodge. Justin, you and Peel are with me.
The security patrolling the lodge are down.

Good work.

On it.

Everyone,
We've secured the eight personnel who came to check things down here. We've freed the Muggles and told them which way to get out.

On our way to the lodge now, by way of the maintenance barrack.
2015-06-03 22:25:00
Private message to Jason Montague

What was that business with Trinc Moran? You glared at him like --

Is there someone else I ought to be flirting with? You?

@alt_seamus

@alt_jason at 2015-06-04 03:29:57
(no subject)

Yeah, you don't want to go there.

I mean, do you?

Maybe you did, but really, you don't.

@alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 03:30:39
(no subject)

Why, what exactly would I be letting myself in for?

@alt_jason at 2015-06-04 03:34:44
(no subject)

That one is fond of Imperius.

Because the things he likes to do aren't what most would be up for.

And he wouldn't want you to be up for them.

See what I mean?
Oh.

Thanks, then.

Karo must have invited him. Not many know of his predilections.

Anyway, there's probably someone here who likes blokes and isn't Moran, and would fancy an Irish lad with a smile like yours.

Let me think on it.

Most of the blokes here seem to be rather focused on the girls.

Try chatting up G. Bobolis.

Oh, Ganymede is here?

He took me as his plus-one to that party Daphne Greengrass hosted for Crouch, back in April. Seemed a lot more interested in gossip I might be able to pass along than he was in anything else, though.
Yeah, I know Daphne. Knew.

Did Ganymede have any interesting gossip himself, or was he just thirsty for it?

Oh, of course you did, she was your cousin. Anyway, I ought to have been a little more clear -- I needed someone to take me, in order to go, and he agreed but only if I'd give him good gossip. It wasn't really all that mutual! Too bad, as he's certainly fit.

I told him a load of things that were happening at Hogwarts, all of which are now extremely old news, like that Harry moved himself to Gryffindor House and Justin Finch-Fletchley spent a night up with us once, too, and the Headmaster didn't seem inclined to discipline any of his favourites... riveting, no?

Riveting but all quite irrelevant now.

Say, you don't fancy girls even a little, do you?

Like, if a bloke were there as well, for example.
Ah.

Well, Serena Laverty likes the look of us you, but seems you're bound and determined to disappoint her.

Maybe it's just not in the cards for either of us tonight, eh?

Honestly I appreciated being invited but I don't exactly feel like I fit in at this party.

If I go home without company, there are worse things. (Like Trinc Moran, evidently. Thanks for that.)

Yeah, well, to those who are good at reading people, like Trinc, you send out signals they can't ignore.

Not your fault or anything, it's just how it is.

Soz, that sounded a bit odd. Ignore me, I talk too much.

You want to get out of here?
Yeah.

Brilliant. You haven't seen my flat yet, up in Camden. There should be plenty to drink there.

Meet me in the foyer?

On my way.
Found mine. You?

Kathryn seems to have settled on Zabini and Siobhan. Know you were hoping to go there tonight.

What about Sarah, or Euterpe?

Mind, if it's Sarah, don't let her do anything permanently damaging.

P.S. Thank you for not inviting Clearwater.
2015-06-03 22:54:00
*Private Message to Jason*

All right, Monty? Making Finnigan feel comfortable?

Is tonight the night, or no. Or will you favour another?

---

**alt_jason** at 2015-06-04 04:05:01
(no subject)

Serena was being quite friendly earlier. She likes Ireland, too.

I've a feeling he doesn't return the sentiment.

And besides, I'm trying to be a responsible mentor type. It doesn't suit me at all but there it is.

---

**alt_ptolemy** at 2015-06-04 04:09:20
(no subject)

Sadly, Serena's attentions are claimed for the evening. And I'm not in a sharing mood tonight.

Though if all the chairs disappear and you find yourself standing when the music stops, I suppose we could be charitable.

Stop playing coy. You're right, it doesn't suit you. If you want him, take him. If you don't, don't.

---

**alt_jason** at 2015-06-04 04:11:17
(no subject)

She was after me first. Lucky for you I *am* in a sharing mood, hey?

Stop worrying about who I take to bed, Bads. I'll always leave you a little room—if you're nice.
I'm always concerned about you. Indecision, Jase, it's not your most appealing trait.

I reckon I'm stepping out in a few, anyway. Going to take Finnigan back to my place.

Don't go trying to take credit for it, all right?
**2015-06-03 22:55:00**  
*Order Only Private Message to Rachel and Units 1, 2*

Have MD and two security stupefied up here, but could use help levitating them down from the upper chambers. Second chamber, west side, and the service corridor behind it.

---

**alt_justin** at **2015-06-04 04:03:19**  
*(no subject)*

Coming.

---

**alt_ron** at **2015-06-04 04:05:50**  
*(no subject)*

Cheers.

Crenwelge was up here but got drawn off. You seen him?

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-06-04 04:30:07**  
*(no subject)*

Heads up, all of you: there are a load of boggarts wandering around the grounds. One turned itself into a lethifold for Charlie and Peel.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-06-04 04:35:09**  
*(no subject)*

For that matter, anyone who's skilled at knocking off boggarts and doesn't have their hands full, Charlie's finding them rather distracting and would appreciate a hand with them.

He broke off mid-sentence, don't know if he ran into more trouble, so look sharp.
On it.
2015-06-03 23:05:00
Order Only: Private message to Charlie and Mac

(And let Mina know, too.)

We're ready for you here. I've sent Enforcer Peel to the apparation point to meet you. Some of the more dangerous creatures are loose -- it's how we provided a distraction for our entry. It didn't sound like they had a Manticore at the moment, but I'd lay odds there's at least one Welsh Green.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 04:10:58
(no subject)

Given we're in Wales, I suppose this IS their natural habitat. We could just leave them be. (The dragons, I mean.)

alt_charlie at 2015-06-04 04:20:07
(no subject)

Here now, Peel's walking me in. Yeah, if there are Welsh Greens, we can just leave them be, although I'll want to get a tag-and-trace on them. I'm more worried about the more dangerous things -- what else is loose?

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 04:27:59
(no subject)

We've spotted thestrals, a bicorn, an erumpent, two hippogryffs, and I'm pretty sure there are some Centaurs. Oh, and a daraliznof freeaazer. There's probably more than one of those.

There were also a couple of werewolves but it's not full moon so no particular danger there.

Maebh's office may have an inventory but it might be behind some ward that bites, I'd rather not search it unless we think we'll find something we need.
Yeah, I've got a good look at the thestrals right now. They're harmless, at least.

Let me go by the paddock and take a better census, and then I'll come talk to the centaurs. We might get some credit with them, freeing their hostages like that.

Fuck me running, watch out, there's a shitload of boggarts around the entrance. Peel saw it as a lethifold and we nearly shit our pants until it flipped into mine and we realised what it was.

I'm going to take a turn around the grounds, actually, before meeting you. I want to get a better sense of what we're dealing with here.

Do you suppose people actually want to hunt boggarts, or do you think she uses to those to cheat people who think they want to hunt lethifolds?

The four I've spotted so far have been drifting around freely, so they may have just been attracted by the fear and death. If you've got anyone free who's good at dealing with them, can you send them along to box them up? I've got
You alright? I'll see about sending someone to manage the boggarts.

Yeah, sorry, I'm okay, hang on --

Sorry, dumbass me needs to learn not to walk and write at the same time. I nearly fell into a charnel pit before Peel grabbed me by the robes and yanked me back.

I'm not going to look too closely into this right now, there's more important things to do, but it looks like this is where they've been dumping the carcasses of all the animals people have been hunting. The bits they didn't want for trophies, I mean. We might want to get Hermione and Sluggy, and maybe Melli and Ragnik, down here in the morning to see if there's any ingredients they can use. I definitely can see dragonhide from where I'm standing right now, so we can probably get some heartstring out of it.

Thank Merlin for the charms they have on this to keep it from reeking, is all I'll say.

Justin found a naked girl in a cage, apparently. Of COURSE they threw their dragon carcasses into a pit to rot.
Snowdonia is large and would be difficult to secure and defend, long term. We may have some time in the morning but it's possible we should send for a salvage team tonight. Hermione and Slughorn, at least.

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-04 04:50:47
(no subject)

Yeah, good idea. I'll write them both. Sluggy's not going to want to come out this late, but Hermione might be able to grab one or two other people who are decent with Creatures and know what to do for ingredients.

And of course Justin found a naked lady. If anyone were going to, it would be him.

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-04 05:10:03
(no subject)

Okay, Hermione at least is coming, and I told her to bring a few extra hands.

@alt_macnair at 2015-06-04 05:09:37
(no subject)

Just ran into three centaurs.

Told them I knew Firenze and a few others from that clan.

Not sure they care.

@alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 05:10:52
(no subject)

Do you think they're going to hurt you if you just let them loose?
They're letting me stand here and write so I reckon not.

Hm, I don't know anyone from the Welsh clans, do you? Would they be all right to get back home on their own, or do you think they'll need help?

I just found the erumpet pen.

They strike me as capable.

Right, fair enough. If they need any healing before they go, and they're willing to let you do it, maybe that will get us some goodwill points.

Set them loose and wish them luck?
Yeah, did.

I'm mostly sure they won't circle back around and attack us.

I told them we'd set the other creatures loose, I think that charmed them a bit.

What do centaurs do with their dead? I'm just wondering if our salvage work in the charnel pit is going to create problems, if there are any centaurs in there.

Couldn't say.

It's not something they'd share with an outsider.
Kathryn says she fancies a potion after all, so if you can manage it, bring three. But don't go back down if you're already on your way up.

We're just getting comfortable.
2015-06-03 23:30:00
Private message to Hermione, Prof. Slughorn, Melli, and Rachel

The team that's here to clear out Snowdonia has secured the place, and I've found a charnel pit full of the bodies of the things that have been hunted. There's undoubtedly a great deal in there that would be useful for ingredients. (I can spot a bicorn from here, and at least one dragon, for instance.)

It's not completely free of danger yet -- a lot of creatures got released in the middle of the chaos -- but Rachel thinks we're going to have to pull back by morning, so if you lot want to come up here and salvage what you can, it might be very worth the trip. Melli, bring Ragnik too if you want. Let us know if you're coming and one of us will run down to the Apparition point and meet you.

---

alt_charlie at 2015-06-04 04:58:50
(no subject)

If none of you can make it, I'll do as much of it as I can myself, but I don't know everything I'm looking for and the last time I tried salvaging ingredients Snape called me a nitwit and told me I did it wrong

alt_hermione at 2015-06-04 05:01:11
(no subject)

I was nearly asleep. Reading.

I can get there, I just have to get changed. And grab a field collection kit.

alt_charlie at 2015-06-04 05:03:13
(no subject)

Sorry, I didn't mean to wake you! It's only that it looks like there's a load of stuff that can be useful, and Rachel's not sure how long we ought to stay.

There's also a bunch of Muggles who'll need apparating out, so if you could bring some people to be apparators, that would be
wonderful. As you can imagine, they really don't want to stay here a minute longer than they have to.

alt_hermione at 2015-06-04 05:04:53  
(no subject)

Oh, no, I wasn't asleep, I was just, you know, already in bed and dozing a bit.

It's all right.

I'll see if Sally-Anne's awake, usually she is.
2015-06-03 23:37:00  
*Order Only: Private Message to Rachel and Hydra*

I've completed my sweep of the southeast slope.  
I say, perhaps up in the lodge, there are some robes we could pilfer? There's another cage, just outside a private cabin. There's, er, a woman inside. Quite in need of clothing, what.  

-Justin

---

alt_rachel at 2015-06-04 04:41:36  
(no subject)

I'll send her some of Maebh's.

alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 04:42:27  
(no subject)

What?  
Oh, how horrid.

I'll find something for her.

alt_justin at 2015-06-04 04:51:41  
(no subject)

Please hurry.  
She's, er, rather *keen*. I've put my cloak on her for now.

-J
alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 04:53:20
(no subject)

Just leave the room.

She's in a cage.

alt_justin at 2015-06-04 04:53:06
(no subject)

I say, they must have given her some sort of aphrodisiac, what.

I--oh d--

alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 04:55:06
(no subject)

You let her out?

Justin.
Order Only: Private message to Alice, Remus, and Sirius

Snowdonia is secure, for now. We've got Maebh and the guards subdued. Charlie found an entire pit full of rotting dragon carcasses and who knows what else, minus the bits taken as trophies -- I don't think we should plan to stay past dawn, it's too dangerous, so he's contacted Hermione and a few others to come salvage what they can.

We could also use a hand side-along apparating the muggles -- there were a bit over two dozen and needless to say, they don't want to stay here. For that matter, we could use a hand side-along apparating Maebh Drumgoole. And any of her staff and guests you think we'd want to put on trial. Should I bring the lot? No big fish here, unfortunately, other than Maebh herself.

Of course.

I'll rouse some help for the Apparations, and make sure Ragnik is made aware. Patty will want to come too -- and if Colin can be separated from Luna for a little, he and Evelyn are experienced at culling material from the Forest, and could be of use in that arena.

Nicely done.

And yes, might as well.

It's over twenty people, total.

All of them are terrible, or they wouldn't be working here, or here on holiday. But none of them are Maebh.
Aldrich, do you think, or Saltash, for now?

alt_alice at 2015-06-04 05:09:58
(no subject)

Aldrich ought to suit, unless you've any substantial concerns.

alt_sirius at 2015-06-04 05:11:42
(no subject)

I agree. Take their wands, keep them under guard. We can question them tomorrow and separate the mildly guilty from the truly accountable.
2015-06-04 00:27:00
Order Only: Private message to Pansy

So, here's what comes of taking Care of Magical Creatures for a NEWT: I'm at Snowdonia. Helping clear out a pit of enormous rotting carcasses of dragons and who-knows-what-else (we're trying to salvage things like dragonhide and heartstring).

While possibly being stalked by furious, homicidal centaurs Professor Macnair just set loose. (We're not sure if there are any centaur bodies in here. If there are, we're not sure whether the centaurs will care. If they do care, we're not sure whether they'll mention that to us or just kill us on sight.)

Also, there are boggarts roaming around. Ron was after them, but if I see an acromantula roaming around it's PROBABLY a boggart menacing Ron and not an actual acromantula though who knows given that it's Snowdonia.

Don't you wish you'd stuck with Creatures?

---

@alt_pansy at 2015-06-04 05:34:16 (no subject)

Ooooooh. Sounds absolutely delightful.

It's a good thing you have access to the Prefect's bath when you get back.

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-04 05:37:51 (no subject)

Yeah, after this I definitely deserve every sort of bubbles that exist and probably some that don't!
alt_pansy at 2015-06-04 05:39:44
(no subject)

You most certainly do. I'll have to invent some new ones.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-04 14:44:58
(no subject)

I decided to wait until morning for my bath, I was so tired when I got back, and now I'm sorry I didn't bathe right away because I feel completely DISGUSTING. I ought to leave an apology note for the elves who clean up after me.

But, we brought home loads of useful things.

And not only did the centaurs not end up attacking us, when they realised we were willing to make it possible for them to retrieve the centaur bodies while not touching them ourselves, they actually watched our back, which turned out to be a really good thing when the tiger showed up. (Did you know Snowdonia had tigers? Just regular tigers, but actually it turns out those are at LEAST as dangerous as some of the magical creatures.)

alt_pansy at 2015-06-04 15:15:58
(no subject)

You were attacked by a tiger, and a centaur protected you?

I mean, come on, you've got to admit that'll make a really great story once you forget what everything smelled like.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-04 15:19:31
(no subject)

It didn't smell quite as bad as you'd expect? I mean, they'd used some sort of preservation spell on most of the bodies, because here's the thing, they did know dragonhide was valuable
and someone was planning to skin them and sell the stuff one of these days, I think.

Mind you, the person who cast the preservation spell wasn't terribly good at it.

This morning, though: yeah, the stuff that came away with me on my clothing didn't bring the preservation spell with it.

**alt_pansy** at 2015-06-04 15:34:13
*(no subject)*

An apology note is definitely in order, then.

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-04 14:46:01
*(no subject)*

(Okay, maybe 'decided' is overstating things. I sort of remember thinking that I would just lie down for two minutes before I went to clean myself up. I did kick off my shoes, at least.)
Well, my party last night went *swimmingly*. Yours?

---

*alt_jason* at 2015-06-04 15:08:29
*(no subject)*

No.

_Ouch_

---

*alt_rachel* at 2015-06-04 15:11:14
*(no subject)*

Hung over, then? I'd say that's on you.

Me, I spent the night out in the fresh air at a hunting preserve in Wales. I've never felt better!

---

*alt_jason* at 2015-06-04 15:13:11
*(no subject)*

Fuck, sorry.

Yeah, the tonics are a bit slow this morning. They're working their way into my blood but I think my blood is still around 76% firewhiskey.

Wales is nothing to brag about.

Snowdonia?
Yes, Snowdonia. Merlin, you are running slow this morning. Sorry to wake you, clearly you ought to still be sleeping it off!

All right. What will you do with Snowdonia, exactly?

My party: brilliant for nearly everyone else. Less so for me.

Merlin and Morganna, are you telling me you wound up sleeping alone last night? No wonder you're hung over! (Also, is that actually a first?)

Sort of Yeah, more or less.

Could have done, mind. But I was overly focused on making sure someone else was having a good time and not getting into trouble, I think.

Don't feel sorry for me. Feel sorry for the people who didn't get to go to bed with a legilimens.

And feel sorry for yourself, too. I get my best information from people that way.

I can't believe that little one you've got is married. Do you know how much information she could get as a female legilimens if she were single and willing?
At this point, not much, unless she was going to use polyjuice to trade places with Sarah Yaxley or something.

But, you know, not everyone has your particular set of gifts.

If she trades places with Sarah, I'll know.

I dare not take that last as a compliment, lest you follow with some cutting barb that pricks at my pride.

What? You're quite gifted, you know. (You do know. That's one of the things I remember from school.)

Anyway, you probably wouldn't be the only one who'd notice; Sarah's got quite a unique and distinctive personality.

Actually being reminded of that right now is... not helpful.

Yeah, she's mental, is what you mean. But it's hot, in its own way.
I'm sure it is.

You want me to tell you more?

Because there are several married women (and a few men) that I exchange salacious prose with.

The pay is good. But Miss Minx gets a discount.

That's not the prose I'm paying you for, alas. I'm sure it makes for delightful reading!

You know where to find me if you change your mind.
**2015-06-04 10:20:00**

*Private Message to B Lestrange and M Travers*


Have one of the maintenance staff here. Doesn't know much. There was an attack. Heavy fighting, but over quickly. Have a call in to Penderyn to have a look.


---

[@alt_bellatrix] at **2015-06-04 15:42:15**

*(no subject)*

I saw Lamont's on-journal activity last night and wondered how they were mobilising.

Snowdonia, though. Not what I would expect.

But it may have some kind of "symbolic value" to them, given their nature.

Maebh was taken?

---

[@alt_crouch_jr] at **2015-06-04 16:15:34**

*(no subject)*


---

[@alt_bellatrix] at **2015-06-04 16:25:55**

*(no subject)*

Unfortunate.

Call in handlers if there are any creatures worth the effort.

Otherwise, we leave it. Those who want sport will have to find it with us.
I asked for my journal because I'm bored. I heard you on the wireless, though, they let me listen. Well, they were listening and I could hear it.

How do you like Buckingham?

That witch from MEU came to see me yesterday. She wanted to know about Snowdonia. I guess I can expect questions now and then about things I'm supposed to know because I was on the Council.

Only it's not as if we knew anything, did we. But Haruman told me I'd better cooperate, so I told her whatever she wanted to know.

Only that means eventually I might have to tell them things about you. I don't want to, though.

Did something happen last night? Were you there?

(And what's Blaise doing writing Siobhan Calderwood? I'm just curious. And bored.)

There was a party last night at someone's country house. I think Blaise went off with Siobhan Calderwood and ... maybe it was Kathryn Pile? It was a pretty wild time.

Anyway, I doubt there's anything you know about me they haven't worked out on their own. I mean, Hydra's one of them, and she's a legilimens. Bill Weasley's one of them, and he was at the Rite with my mother. If they ask you something about me, you should probably just tell them.
I heard that Lav's there, too, only she got horribly disfigured and she has to wear a mask now.

And it looks like Professor Slughorn's one of them, too.

You were at a wild party? I guess I'm not surprised Blaise enjoyed himself. Only--Malfoy wrote to him, so I thought maybe he hadn't chosen up a side yet.

Well, did you have fun?

I would've thought you'd know better than me about Lav? Anyway she actually wrote a post you'll find if you go looking, it was her foot that got hurt not her face.

Slughorn, yeah, probably.

I'm not sure whether Blaise thinks he's choosing a side. Last night he seemed rather more interested in choosing a lay. His fiance went off with someone else, too.

And no, I didn't have much fun.

Good Sorry. Did something happen? Or were there no blokes like you?

I mean, I don't think I'd have liked that sort of
party, either. If people were.... well, it doesn't seem very savoury.

But it sounds like the sort of place where anything would go, so.... Did something happen?

**@alt_seamus** at 2015-06-04 18:21:54
(no subject)

Ganymede was there, but whatever, not inclined to chase after him. Another bloke hit on me, but one of my friends warned him off because I guess it's less lads he's into and more hurting people for thrills. I thought maybe that friend was interested, especially after we went home together, but he wasn't.

I'll get over it.

**@alt_padma** at 2015-06-04 18:25:11
(no subject)

By 'friend' you mean Jason Montague, don't you. He also writes to Ptolemy Baddock a lot and someone he calls Miss Minx. Who's she? Someone we know?

**@alt_seamus** at 2015-06-04 18:26:06
(no subject)

I don't know who Miss Minx is but I assume it's someone he's sleeping with. He likes girls, too.

**@alt_padma** at 2015-06-04 18:34:08
(no subject)

You know, Seamus....

If you're not happy there, you could--you could stop. You don't have to stay with them.

It hasn't been awful here. I mean, it's boring and lonely, but no one's torturing anyone. They haven't hexed me or anything. I heard they let Draco's parents leave, even, though someone
said it's because they paid a huge bribe (and because they're Draco's parents, and he's helping. I mean, he's one of their Aurors and then there's that mudblood Granger and he talks about how much better the Phoenixes are.), so they might be lenient, if you turned yourself in.

If you're not happy then you might as well be not happy where you don't have to keep looking over your shoulder, you know?

alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:37:13
(no subject)

One lousy night at a party doesn't mean I'm unhappy here.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:40:34
(no subject)

Anyway, of course they went easy on you. What had you even done? Ollerton. But Weasley, Lestrange, and F-F were all there next to us, doing the exact same as we were doing.

I handed over Neville Longbottom to Bellatrix Lestrange. You think Alice Longbottom would say, 'oh, hello, Mr Finnigan, since you turned yourself in we'll definitely go easy on you,' seriously? Because I don't.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:41:17
(no subject)

Anyway, we're going to win.

I'll try to convince them to go easy on you. You've been a prisoner since the Battle of Hogwarts, it's not your fault you weren't able to get away.
Look, I -- I'm sorry.

I don't want to make our friendship impossibly awkward. Friendship is fine. If you don't I promise I won't try to kiss you again. (I think it was me who kissed you, last night. I know I told you this morning you kissed me but once I'd had the hangover potion and slept again I was a lot less sure.)

I find you attractive. Not much point in lying about that. But I find a lot of people attractive, and a good portion of the time they're not interested in lads, and I manage. The fact that you fancy some lads doesn't mean you fancy me; I'll manage.

I hope you'll still train with me. Duelling, I mean.

Why are you apologising?
Do you think I'm hacked off?

You might be?

Well I can see why you might think so, since you were just recently still at school, but no, I'm not hacked off.

There's always at least one mix-up at parties like those. We're just lucky we didn't have any of the potions, aren't we?
Then we'd really be in trouble.

לחם alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:26:29
(no subject)

I suppose.

לחם alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:28:15
(no subject)

By the way, who's Miss Minx?

Was she at last night's party?

לחם alt_jason at 2015-06-04 18:29:56
(no subject)

No, she wasn't.

She's married, in fact.

And you know, you might have snogged me but I reckon I wasn't on my best behaviour, either.

I don't think we should worry about it.

לחם alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 18:32:18
(no subject)

Okay.

So, do you want to duel this afternoon, or are you still hung over?
Can we make it after supper?
I should be better by then. I hope.

After supper works for me.

All right.

Your friend wrote to you.
I was thinking about what you said, about Bobolis wanting gossip from you. Is that what you and Padma Patil did, gossip?

Or are you a little information-hoarder, like I am?

We did gossip. It's -- not exactly gossip now. I did tell her I went to the party, though.

She told me a few things. I can show you, if you want.

She also told me to turn myself in, that they'd go easy on me, like
they did with her. Not sure if that was actually her writing or someone else.

alt_jason at 2015-06-04 18:46:42  
(no subject)

Far as I'm concerned, what you say to her is between the two of you.

Why wouldn't they go easy on you? Oh, because of Longbottom, right.

How'd you manage to turn him in, anyway?

alt_seamus at 2015-06-04 19:21:19  
(no subject)

Well, I'd suspected for a long time he was a traitor. Ron Weasley, too.

Last winter, when I went home for hols, this notebook of his wound up in my trunk. Only it was spelled shut, warded, which seemed really suspicious. I got some help from Padma spelling it open, and took a look. Honestly I wouldn't have thought anything of it, if it hadn't been warded shut in the first place, but inside he had all these notes on plants and some of them said 'ask S.S.,' and there were a few other things...anyway, I wasn't sure what to make of it. So I talked with Mr Rosier, and he called up Bellatrix Lestrange, and she brought in Neville to ask him some questions, and it turned out he could occlude.

Because of course he could. All the traitors learned how, I guess, and that's how they managed to not get caught.

They didn't learn anything from him. What I heard, later, is that Hydra was supposed to practise her interrogation skills and she mucked it up and broke him so badly, he couldn't talk anymore. But you know, she must have done that on purpose, since she was a traitor, as well. To keep him from talking.

With mates like that, who even needs enemies?
Seems your suspicions were dead on. Good instincts, there.

When you get information that could implicate someone, you have to take care how to use it. I can see why you told Rosier, but it was out of your hands as soon as you did that, from the sounds of it.

If it'd been your choice, would you have called up Lady Lestrange?

Or done something else?

By the way, if Patil says something that makes you think you're being baited, you should tell me.

Like I said this morning, I'm looking out for you.

I would not have called in Bellatrix, she's never - well, until recently she was never someone I dealt with if I could avoid it. She's different now than she used to be. But I didn't know who to go to other than Mr Rosier, and I didn't think it was something I could properly investigate on my own.

Anyway I guess I'm not sure what you mean by baited. She tried to talk me into turning myself into the Order, but I mentioned that. Said they hadn't hexed her or anything, she was just bored and lonely.

Yeah, I know what you're saying. I can see why you had limited options.

By baited I mean if she starts asking you a lot of
questions about what we're up to over at Buckingham or elsewhere in New London. Or if she asks you to come meet her somewhere, that sort of thing.

You'll know it when you see it, yeah?

Oh, yeah, that makes sense. She hasn't -- well, she did ask me about the party, because she saw Blaise Zabini's PM, but I didn't think there was any harm in telling her I'd been to a party.

I think someone's reading over everything she writes and crossing things out because the sentences come out all jumbled.

I was trying to get her to name a meeting place for a while, but so I could tell Auror Lestrange to go instead. I didn't even think of that, this time, though. I think she'd probably just tell me to turn myself in at Hogwarts.

Are you thinking about doing that?

Turning yourself in at Hogwarts?

No, I'm not.

You'd know if I were, anyway. Wouldn't you?

Possibly.

Say, if you told me.
alt_seamus at 2015-06-05 03:37:43
(no subject)

Well, I'm not.

alt_jason at 2015-06-05 03:42:00
(no subject)

Good.

I don't think you should.
I'm awake.

I'm not particularly _happy_ that I'm awake, what.

But if anyone needs me, I'm available. If not, I'll continue to lie here for a while, if that's all right. At least until supper.

-F-F

---

**alt_justin** at 2015-06-04 22:19:14  
*Private Message to Hydra*

He corrected your spelling?

He corrected your spelling.

I know, I know, I shan't give him the satisfaction of thinking his tactics get to me. Or you. Or us.

Psychopathic _bastard_.

**alt_hydra** at 2015-06-04 22:21:54  
*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Honestly, I'm glad that's the only thing he appears to have felt like doing.

**alt_justin** at 2015-06-04 22:32:09  
*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

It's that he does it _at all_. He could tell you the sky is blue and bally well make it sound like a threat.

Oh, love, I'm sorry. I say. If you don't feel threatened then I shouldn't make a fuss. It makes me want to put a squadron of Aurors all round you, though, even if I know you're perfectly capable of protecting yourself. You shouldn't have to feel...
'glad' he only chose to correct your spelling in a vaguely and entirely inappropriately paternal way.

You shouldn't have to put up with his bollocks at all, what.

-J

alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 22:37:33
Re: Private Message to Hydra

I know I shouldn't. But what else is there to do?

At least Mummy isn't writing anything to me, and Daddy really isn't, either.

I expected that Crouch would want to kill me when he found out.

I didn't expect that he would want to do whatever it is he's doing, though.

alt_justin at 2015-06-04 22:47:06
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Muggles call it 'stalking,' after the way hunters pursue deer.

Oh, dash it, I'm too cross to laze about anymore.
I'm having a shower before supper.

I don't mean I'm cross with you, sweetheart. I bally well want to thrash him into next year but I know that's impossible.

Perhaps tomorrow's party will help, what.

-J

alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 22:49:26
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Yes, I was just thinking about some different ways we could cheer up the castle. At Daphne's party there were magical projections. I don't think we could do anything as realistic and
fantastical as what she had, but still, it would be something to change the look of things.

Can I come have a shower with you?

@alt_justin at 2015-06-04 23:00:46
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Mrs F-F, anytime you want to be with me, particularly when naked, involving water or otherwise, you are more than welcome!

@alt_hydra at 2015-06-04 23:02:36
Re: Private Message to Hydra

All right.

Next time I won't ask, I'll just show up.

@alt_hermione at 2015-06-05 02:25:24
(no subject)

I concur.
2015-06-04 20:12:00
Private message to Augustus Rookwood

I have some additional information from Stornoway and they are also allowing some additional observations in the next few days. Details I can share now:

1) Your people are safe, and are being treated well, but are being kept in custody and without their journals for the indefinite future. That is not a matter they are willing to negotiate. It is possible they may allow written letters to family or something of the kind, with supervision.

2) Dragons.

They had 25 on the preserve (plus additional wild dragons who were tracked when spotted, but are, well, wild.) before last winter solstice. 4 died then. They lost an additional 11 in the first twenty-four hours after the relevant death, and 3 more since. 2 from injury, and 1 whose death is a mystery, but that they suspect may be related to the wards.

I am told that only 5 were part of the initial ward: the other 7 have all died since.

3) Plans.

They are tentatively willing to discuss plans that would strain their remaining dragons, but insist on knowing the precise details and risk to their dragons (and what steps, if any, can be taken to mitigate that stress) before committing to a particular course of action. Along with calculations that can be verified by a neutral third party. We are in discussion about how to locate such a person.

They have no desire for Atlantis either.

I will be able to pass on comments until sometime on Saturday morning, and then unavailable until Monday.
2015-06-04 22:56:00
Order Only: Private message to Alice

Alice?

Keep Neville's wand.

---

@alt_alice at 2015-06-05 04:39:16
(no subject)

I wasn't expecting I'd get the chance to

It's

yes.

I think I shall.

thank you, Remus.
Many happy returns, Draco.

I was just thinking, tomorrow's going to be your first birthday without Harry. It's probably the first time you even remember a birthday without Harry. You were even together last year; it wasn't until the day afterward that everything went to hell and you ran.

I saw you flirting with that mudblood in Hydra's journal entry yesterday. You make such an adorable couple. I'm sure she'll be there to comfort you tomorrow when you're thinking about Harry. You can cry on her shoulder.

But you know, now that we know about the two of you, she'll be even more of a target. You're not the only one who can cast the Black Curse. If Bellatrix casts it on your mudblood, will you hold her in your arms as she dies from it and think about how now you know exactly how much Harry suffered? Or will you mercy-kill her to spare her the part where all her insides disintegrate and she pukes the decaying bits out of her mouth?

Then you'll have murdered two people you love.

Again I wonder if you actually believe that you're tormenting me by repeating aloud the fears I already know that I have.

You haven't even got past the surface of most things I fear and worry about. I've been experiencing those emotions for longer than you have. I'm not ashamed of my fears. I own up to all of them.

Here, let me tell you some:

When Harry and I said goodbye, Harry said he thought we would see each other again. That he'd go onto a better place, after it was over.

I worry that he didn't go to that place at all. He didn't die a normal
death - his soul was ripped from his body using dark magic. Maybe his soul is out there somewhere, still being ripped apart. Maybe it never stops.

I worry that if Harry *did* move into a different place, a better place, then that's not the same place I'll go when I die.

I worry that when all my friends look at me now, they hate me, because they see the person that murdered Harry.

I worry they *don't* hate me, because they definitely should.

I worry about having to mercy-kill Hermione. I worry about her having to mercy-kill me. But obviously I'd do it and so would she. The fact that you even ask that question demonstrates your ignorance about me, about her, about us.

What about you, Finnigan? What keeps you up at night, afraid to go to sleep and face those dreams?

Let me guess - you're afraid of being alone.

And you know what? You are.
I see you've been writing to Draco Malfoy, Seamus. Don't know what it's about--he hasn't said anything about it in my hearing. Somehow, I don't think you're exchanging pleasant little reminiscences about Hogwarts. I notice that it's you writing to him, not the other way around.

I also know that Neville once took actions which ended up saving your life. Instead of honouring that life debt, you betrayed him.

There's something you should know, something of which you might not be aware.

Betraying a life debt has a huge magical cost.

Whatever you were trying to do when you betrayed Neville, it's backfired on you. There were two deaths that brought down your Lord Protector. Two deaths necessary for that rite they used that he hoped would give him eternal life but instead ended up killing him.

One was Harry's. But the other was Neville's.

So Harry and Neville between them set in motion the fall of the Protectorate. Draco put Harry there.

But you put Neville there.

Harry and Neville will long be remembered and revered for their bravery and their sacrifice. Draco did what he did at Harry's request, and for the sake of their friendship, and their goals were the same: to bring Voldemort down. And so he'll have honour from us, too.

You may have hoped for gratitude or perhaps notoriety from the people you wanted to impress when you turned against Neville, but you won't be so lucky. In fact, you'll never have luck again. You will be forgot.

This is the curse that will fall upon you all the rest of your days. Let me be clear: I'm not doing it. You've done it to yourself:

Since you betrayed a man who saved you, a man a thousand times
better than you, your own magic will punish you by betraying you. All your choices from now will turn into weapons in your hands that will only cut youself. You will always throw your lot in with the wrong people. Whatever you hold most dear will fail (Rosier died in your arms in the battle, didn't he? Sally-Anne told us). Even though I'm telling you this, and even if you try to change direction hoping to dodge this fate now that you know it, you will always, always choose wrong. You can, of course, expect no mercy from us. You will never have mercy from me.

Your own choices have condemned you to a miserable life from now on, Seamus. It probably won't last much longer. I bet, before the end, you'll wish it had been even shorter.

And if you're wondering why you should give a damn what I say, you should.

I'm Neville Longbottom's brother.

I'm also the man who killed Amycus Carrow by ripping out his throat with my own teeth.

You can write back if it makes you feel better, but I won't answer.

I have nothing else whatsoever to say to you.

Terry Boot Longbottom

---

✉️ alt_seamus at 2015-06-05 15:44:34
(no subject)

Thanks to Neville Longbottom's interference, I was forced to kill my own mother, then watch as Antonin Dolohov spilled her blood onto the ground.

I hope you're forced to kill Alice Longbottom, so you can properly appreciate how grateful I felt, you vile bit of filth.
Charlie,

We’ve been like brooms passing in the night, and I’ve barely seen you. Besides, I’ve been buried in lists, interview transcripts, maps, and other parchment work. I didn’t hear the latest report from Stornaway until this morning.

Charlie, I can’t say how sorry I am about the dragons you’ve lost.

Do you have any eggs clutching? Are their mothers still alive? I’ve lost track.

Alice mentioned you think we should be instituting--how’d she put it? Oh yeah--Days of Rest, No Work, And Get The Fuck Out Of Here. (You’re the one who came up with that title, yeah?) If we can actually pull one off in the next few days, want to spend it with me? I can lay my hands on some Firewhiskey and I have good sobering potions. I can limit myself to pouring, if you feel the need to get completely pissed.

Or we could just talk. If that’s what you’d prefer.

Maybe you want to spend the time curled up with Tonks and Adam or Dree and Em instead, and that’s fine, too. Melin knows that Rachel and I are grasping for every moment we can snatch together. But if you want some time for the two of us, or maybe with Ron and Ginny too if it suits you, that’s important, too, and I’m willing to help make it happen.

Thanks, you. I can’t really wrap my head around it, honestly. Over half of them gone in the last year.

We had three eggs this year. Two of them hatched just before Victory Day or whatever we’re calling it -- one of those died. The third should have hatched a few days after, and didn’t. You can’t use the checkup charms on an egg in the last week or so of gestation without risking damage to the kit, so we were pretty reluctant to
check on it, but Dree decided on Wednesday it was long enough past when it should have hatched and checked the egg, and it's no longer viable.

I'm just glad that the one kit who didn't die didn't lose her mother. I just don't know that we'd have the capacity to hand-raise right now.

I was actually going to grab you sometime soon if I didn't see you, and see if you wanted to have a chess afternoon this weekend. Or if you don't want to lose time with Rachel, maybe the four of us, you and me and her and Tonks, could take a picnic out to the lake. If my kids see me visibly and ostentatiously relaxing, it might help them believe they're allowed to as well. Between that and Draco's party, it might help. (Save the bottle of Firewhisky for later, though, I don't think I'm in the mood.)

And yeah, I was the one who told Alice that we need to get people to take care of themselves more. (The name is probably not going to stick outside our circle, at least!) I know we have so much stuff to do and not enough time or people to do it, but we all have to stop driving ourselves like this, because people can't keep up this pace forever.

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@alt_bill at 2015-06-06 02:06:02  
(no subject)

Has the dragon population had a history of a precipitous census drop like this before? If so, how have the reserves handled it? Did they look for orphaned kits in the wild, or were there trades to strengthen bloodlines between reserves?

I like both the chess idea and the picnic idea. (I hope to grab time for chess with both Gin and Ron this week sometime, too.)

I'll look for you at the party tonight and we can firm up the details.

---

@alt_charlie at 2015-06-06 04:51:18  
(no subject)

There are enough wild Welsh Greens and Hebridean Blacks in the area that the population bottleneck shouldn't be too severe there -- I tagged two Greens at Snowdonia, actually, and the charm
says they're ranging properly and are both alive and well. I'm mostly worried about the Vipertooths, we only have one breeding pair left of those and it's going to take some careful wrangling. Thom says they used to trade eggs and the occasional yearling between reserves (there's ones in Romania, China, Japan, America, and Brazil, or at least there was when the wards went up, and Thom tried to remember where else and couldn't) but obviously it's been a while since that's been possible. Thom and Dree are trying to work out a plan that will allow them the best chances, but they won't know for sure (and we're all trying really hard to keep some emotional distance) until after we know what we're going to have to do with the wards.

Sorry I didn't catch you at the party, I was doing the rounds and noticed Honoria Sandoval sitting out in the garden and looking like she was half a step away from a breakdown, so I went out to see if she's all right. She didn't want to talk at first, but she didn't want me to go, either, so I sat with her for about an hour until she started sobbing on me and talking about her family and -- well, she was talking about a lot of things, but you know. She said she felt better after, at least, and I think she was going to go find Ginny and have a soak in the Prefect's bath. Merlin, these poor kids. I'm glad I've learned to carry handkerchiefs in my robes for Adam, that's for sure, they've come in useful once or twice this week.

I'm exhausted so I'm going to bed, but picnic for lunch tomorrow, maybe? I'll write you and Rachel and Tonks all together in a minute.

You know, if there's anyone who might know anything about where there might be any wild Vipertooths left, it would be Hagrid. Or even where to find some black market eggs, since they're very rarely sold on the black market for use in some Dark potions, aren't they? There's a certain type of wizard who doesn't give a damn if he's using bits from an animal that's about to go extinct.

Anyway: Hagrid loves dragons, is obsessed with them, really, and he'd be anxious to do anything to help. And he has his own
network of information, and maybe he can turn up a stroke of luck.

alt_bill at 2015-06-06 14:38:52 (no subject)

And good on you for looking out for Honoria, by the way. I've heard Ginny mention her a time or two, as they're friends, and I've heard Ron chunter on about her vile sister, Lana. Sounds to me that Honoria's as odd a duck in her family as Sirius was in his.
the staff I met with were easy enough to sort through. several volunteered to take verisatum before it was offered.

the chef, Pahashmi, wasn’t cooperative, didn’t seem terribly fussed at what was going on at the preserve, but wasn’t directly involved in that side of the business either. the inn manager was one of Maebh’s cousins, a Kathleen Hedigan. seemed a little more involved in the business.

the rest of them were half or three quarter bloods who couldn’t get work elsewhere, and either were terrified of Maebh, hated her, or both. recommended they apply to work with us. more opportunity for advancement. they seemed to take to the idea. in terms of immediate need, both the kitchen workers are capable of potions-grade work, and two of the maintenance crew have had construction experience. told the four of them if they wanted a job they were hired and could show up for work today, told the rest to send an owl to Bill so we could see where they’d suit.

O’Niall, Maebh’s assistant, was a piece of work, immediately offered to present evidence against Maebh in exchange for leniency.

the groom who was there for a bachelor party had no idea what his friends set up, had never been to snowdonia before, no previous history of sexual assault. scared the shite out of him, told him to rethink his friendships, and sent him home. one of his two friends had been there before for a similar sort of ‘party’, both knew what they were paying for.

released everyone but O’Niall, Hedigan, Pahashmi, and two of the bachelor party last night. not sure if the chef needs to be kept around. didn’t strike me as presenting much risk. same with the idiots from the bachelor party. Hedigan’s low risk, but is in a grey area in terms of culpability. suggestions?

Luke’s been interviewing the muggles we brought with from the preserve. he passed along that he’s been taking statements and collecting names and camp locations of their relatives, and that he had to spend some time reassuring them that the camps were
independent and that we'd be taking them back today if that's where they wanted to go. Some were not having it when he asked if we might track them down later to stand witness, but a few seemed pretty damn eager. He made sure to note which ones were up for it, figured we could give them buttons before they go. If it's all right with you, my team'll be taking them back to the camps today once Poppy gives them a stamp of approval. Here's hoping their families haven't gone too far afield yet.

How's it been going with the rest?

---

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-05 18:20:13

(no subject)

I wish we could say the rest of the staff were as blameless or as trapped into their lives as your lot, Frank.

The Chief Game Warden is also related to Maebh, a bloke by the name of Ronan Tierney. Of his assistants, two of them seem all right sorts - at least, veritaserum revealed they were troubled by the work. Might want Mac to talk to them about whether they can be put back to it for better purposes. The others enjoyed the hunts.

Maebh spat out the veritaserum but there was enough left to find out exactly what she thinks of us.

That leaves the guards. All cut from the Nick Dyson, Caesar Crabbe and Nigel Corbyn sort of thug-for-hire cloth. The best I can say for any of them is that there are a couple who didn't care what they were guarding so much as that there was steady pay and a low likelihood of breaking their own bones. None of them seem to lean politically one way or the other, but they all have little compunction against casual cruelty.

For the guests, my suggestion is a fine and some sort of parole that they won't work against us and they won't ever engage in this sort of exploitation again. We just can't keep everyone over for a tribunal.
alt_alice at 2015-06-05 19:14:32  
(no subject)

I agree that it's a drain on resources if we hold too many. The notion of a fine and parole for the guests makes sense to me. Possibly the chef as well?

My first impulse is to keep the guards and the two game wardens under custody due to the greater possibility they could work actively against us, as well as Tierney, Hedigan, O’Niall, and Maebh, obviously, and move towards some form of trial and sentencing.

What are your thoughts, Rachel?

And Frank, love, I'm on the same page in terms of your release of the groom and staff.

I anticipate we'll have to smooth some ruffled feathers with the representatives -- sort out a system of due process for the future, but as there isn't one in place now, I'm sure I can make a case for our decisions and resolve to involve them closely in the structuring of any more formal processes.

alt_frank at 2015-06-05 19:16:19  
(no subject)

good.

looks like most of the muggles are in fairly good shape, there were a few without any immediate family to speak of who wanted to pitch in with davidson and we're taking the rest to the camps this afternoon.

alt_frank at 2015-06-05 19:16:52  
Private Message to Al

wasn't thinking yesterday.

glad you said something.
Oh, dearest man.

I just wasn't prepared for how I'd feel about it. I don't think I expected we'd have the choice to begin with.

We have gone through hell and back again, and through it all, you have been right there next to me. You are the only reason I can get out of bed in the morning and face the world.

You are my support, my rock, my dear, solid, loving, wonderful husband, and I am grateful for you every day.

I am glad you listened. And in the end, that's what matters.

I assume the rest of you aren't fond of the idea of killing Tierney, Hedigan, and the guards, and just keeping Maebh and O'Niall around for a public trial? Because I think it would be a waste of our resources to keep all those people locked up.

I guess then a fine, and maybe an Unbreakable Vow not to raise wands against us. Or harm muggles again or whatever.

An Unbreakable and a fine would be a compromise for those who aren't our main targets, certainly, as long as the wording was sufficiently precise.
It's tempting to confiscate and reassign their wands, but I think that would fuel resentment against us from the wrong quarters.

What about work details? A certain number of hours spent working to restore housing, say?  

...which brings us back to the need for supervision and oversight, which is time consuming, but given we'll have enough demand for it, they certainly wouldn't be working alone -- perhaps we could try it out and see how much of a headache it'd be?

If we've got the manpower to supervise I'm not opposed to it, in theory -- I'm just not sure we do. Maybe we can sentence them to a certain number of hours on a work detail, to be completed at a later time? Once we've properly won, or at least control a bit more of Albion, we can send an owl ordering them to show up for their work detail.

I wouldn't be opposed to killing Maebh and O'Neill and holding the others for a trial, but it would still send the wrong message.

I do like the idea of making them work off their debt, somehow.
Happy birthday, my son.

We did not ... leave matters as I would have wished, but despite the awkwardness, permit me to tell you that I hope that you are able to celebrate without shadow. I pray you will believe me when I say that I understand, a little, what it must have cost you to stand where you are, without Harry by your side.

I do not invoke his memory lightly, or to torment you, but only to tell you something you might not have expected: I grieve with you. It seems I did care for him more than just in so much as his life affected yours; I find now, and am surprised to learn as you no doubt will be, that I miss him not unlike the way a father might miss a son who has suffered an untimely and grisly death.

So I can imagine how much more difficult it is for you to face the remainder of your days without him. I hope that you are allowing yourself time for the pain to lessen, and that on this day, especially, you choose to remember how well you and he loved one another. When the spectre of his absence strikes you, as it inevitably will, toast his memory, drink to the bond you shared and permit yourself to smile again until the next wave. Forgive the trite cliché but time is, in this instance, the only healer with any physick of worth.

That is probably unwelcome advice for one whose patience with himself or anyone else is in short supply in the best of circumstances. Certainly, it is evident you neither wish nor need comfort from this quarter. Nonetheless I hope you will excuse the impertinence, coming as it does from one who will never abjure the rights of a father to express concern for his son.

My concern for your well-being does not end with your emotional health, either. Let us turn then to more corporeal topics.

Your mother (who is out at present, by the bye) will no doubt decide I have behaved recklessly by writing to you. She would prefer we keep our heads buried in the St Tropez sands until this business is at an end, and believes that the moment my hand appears in the journals, we will be beset by her sister's assassins. I do not think Bella would bother, at this point, when it has been far too long in her estimation
since our 'escape' without any offer aid for their cause. It would be a waste of resources to come after us now.

However, from what I have been able to read (in the brief intervals when your mother sees fit to trust me with a journal - no quill, mind you, as if she thinks I am a feeble-minded invalid!), it seems clear that until victory can be definitively claimed by one side or the other, your future is uncertain.

You will protest, I am sure, that your triumph is inexorable and you need no assistance. Just as well, for I cannot offer any - nothing practical, at any rate. Since the terms of our exile preclude direct intercession of the sort that would remit an immediate threat, and since we are half a continent and as good as an entire world away from your home, I shall have to trust to your training and that of your compatriots to save you as you put yourself in the path of danger.

A path which, I am certain, you are taking every opportunity to tread.

There is something I can offer, in the meantime. Consider it quid pro quo for the clemency which your mother and I received, I have no doubt solely due to our familial connexion to at least four of you architects of Albion. I can attempt to secure a similar promise from Antonin, Ari and a few select others of your opponents: That if they prevail, you will be offered exile instead of death. (And naturally, one must exempt your aunt Bellatrix from that list - though she may well want you alive for other reasons. I am aware she has assumed authority in the vacuum, but I suspect her rule is not absolute. There are those who could intercede, or who might at the least, hesitate before engaging you.)

The crux of this bargain will be obvious to you, I am sure. Your enemies are not fools; it would be a ridiculous prospect to agree to spare you if you give them no quarter. Consider, though, the advantage it would give you if they believed you agree. They will be trying not to kill you, while you will be under no such constriction.

This assumes two other facts, as well: That they will not reneg on their promise, if I can secure it; that you are not seeking death, whether consciously or no.

In any event, having written to you openly, I ought not now ignore Antonin, and this gives me a credible reason to write to him. It is up to you whether to use the advantage I will attempt to win.
Have already taken more of your time than I intended. Be well, Draco. Enjoy your day, and all that comes with it.

Always your loving,

Father

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@alt_draco at 2015-06-05 17:37:45
(no subject)

Hello, Father. Good to see that you're well.

I don't know how much you've been able to put together about how Harry died and my role in it, but it's not so simple as learning to live without him. It's hard to celebrate the bond we had when it was precisely that bond that made his untimely and grisly death possible.

He's also not the only person I've cared about and lost in all of this.

But yeah, what else is there to do except wait for time to pass? Nothing.

I'm used to putting myself in the path of danger by now. And nothing would have changed if I and others hadn't been willing to take a risk on that path. Remember Gringott's? That was a walk on Primrose Hill compared to what happened at the school.

Did mother fill you in on that part?

Anyway, the remnants of the council are trying to hold onto what power they can while not repeating the same mistakes of the Lord Protector. Their clock is ticking, though, and they surely know it even if they don't want to admit it. When they become more keenly aware of that fact, they'll become more of a danger, probably.

The Lord Protector left the entire Protectorate Treasury to Harry, and Harry left all his belongings to me. So, the Treasury is now ours. Bellatrix probably has the means to float her crew for a while yet, but not forever.

If you want to speak to Dolohov and Baddock about me then that's your choice, but I don't know what I'm meant to do to give them the impression that I've agreed to not kill them when I actually haven't.
Cannot presume to know who you count among the losses you feel most keenly. Given the battle, no doubt you are mourning for any number of friends, acquaintances and mentors. But as for Harry, yes, I do know what your rôle was. Nor can I truthfully say I might have been able to provide any insight or recourse besides the solution he devised. Even now, it seems unthinkable that the Rite of Succession was in the cards, much less that it worked or that Harry went willingly into it, having already committed to his own death. It is unfortunate that he placed such a burden on you - can only assume there was no alternative, since no one else can cast Bellatrix’s Black Curse, to my knowledge. It is precisely that burden to which I referred, when I said I could understand how much it cost you to be standing when Harry is not. Does it seem so surprising that I might have knowledge of what you had to do? Though many are no stranger to the sort of guilt that accompanies surviving a fallen comrade, yours must haunt you worse than most. I wish it could be otherwise, but again, only time will lessen that grief.

Your mother has filled in the details on many matters, likely more than she shared with you. However, do not need her to explain that there was a battle at Hogwarts, that losses were heavy on both sides and among many who need not have died, that it was hard-fought and that your faction now controls the castle. If you are correct and the tide has turned irrevocably, then it is entirely likely your foes will soon have nothing to lose. Trust I need not remind than an enemy with nothing to lose is infinitely more dangerous than one with much at stake.
Bratka,
Much to discuss; no time at present.
Write when you are able.
Lyoushka

I did not dare to hope you had your journal. Are you all right? Are you recovering?

Slowly.
Have had to piece together information over the last months. Know about the horcruxes, for example. But knowing that, had never expected - Rite of Succession? Was certain his plan would not take that direction. Never considered it, until too late. But it must have been, mustn't it.

How does it go now, with Bella and the others? Too much traffic is private to tell with certainty.
Are you - that is, it's clear you've suffered as many betrayals in this sordid business as I. My sympathies.
I am having difficulty believing what he-whose-name-I-will-never-write-again's plan was, as well. But yes: the Rite of Succession, using Harry as the target, and he called upon me to be the Binder. I almost refused, and to hell with the consequences, but Harry told me it had to be this way, and I have never more regretted my Mastery, but of course if one needs someone for a complex and dangerous rite, I am the first to come to mind. I shall not be putting it on my CV, however.

Harry knew, it appears. When he gave himself up. He asked Draco to cast the Black Curse upon him before he delivered himself, and of course once the rite is completed, the binding cannot be undone.

So it goes.

Bella has been ... surprisingly lucid. I would not have thought her a natural choice for successor, but against all predictions, she has been doing an excellent job. We are ...enduring.

Your sympathies are much appreciated. It has been a difficult few weeks, and I cannot see it getting any less so anytime soon.

Are you and Narcissa safe and well? Comfortable? I must confess, when I heard you had been broken out of Azkaban (and now that we know Draco is alive and cooperating with the Phoenix, a great deal comes clear) I was more relieved than worried, that you would not be in that place anymore.

We're well. As for comfortable ... it could be accurately said that nearly anyplace is preferrable to Azkaban. While my accommodations at Saltash were by no means luxurious, they were satisfactory. But incarceration is nonetheless incarceration, no matter how gilded the cage. Our lodgings here are palatial and peaceful by comparison, though of
course for Narcissa they are a considerable adjustment. It helps that neither of us is in need of much, at least materially.

I am getting used to the feel of a wand again, which is, after all, the only possession that truly matters. Feared I would never again have the opportunity - or the need. The worst part of their prison is that one is surrounded by Muggles and no amount of cosying can make up for the nullification of magic the Phoenixes have devised.

One wonders how they can call themselves wizards, when they eschew the one thing that seals our birthright. It's just as much an affront now as it was back when we were first fighting for our supremacy. Imagine you, Bella and Barty have plans to repay every last traitor, which is at least some solace.

You were not the only one who was relieved, when my removal was arranged. But I don't believe you or Barty are fully aware of the price. At least, cannot think Narcissa would have told you all that happened, though you might recall she suffered for it.
All right?

Soz about the quick parting this morning. No time but to grab a café scone, a speedy cuppa, and then be off. Worked with the new trainees this morning and aff. Speaking of which, you ought to be one. Better with a wand than all of them.

I can try to have a word with someone about that, if you like?

Anyway.

"Terry Boot Longbottom?"

Not sure who or what he is to you, but is he giving you trouble?
alt_jason at 2015-06-05 20:31:58
(no subject)

I'm not sure I want you to tell me, either?
Which is to say that it sounds dire. You seemed
And if you don't want to say more about it then you shouldn't.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-05 20:40:21
(no subject)

I was really angry this morning. At both of them.
Neville meddled. I didn't tell him not to, and it saved my life, but instead
Neville got what he deserved and it's a shame Boot got away.

Though that reminds me. I should tell you (or someone) -- apparently Terry Boot killed Amycus Carrow by tearing out his throat with his teeth. I think he's got to be either a werewolf, or an animagus of some sort, and surely Carrow would have known if he were a werewolf and taken precautions?

alt_jason at 2015-06-05 20:46:17
(no subject)

I could tell.
Huh. How'd he become an animagus while living with Carrow, I wonder?

Carrow was the Transfig professor, so maybe he picked it up that way, somehow, but you can bet Carrow wouldn't have taught him.

He definitely wasn't an animagus when I was at school, but then it would be highly unusual for a boy of ten or whatever to have mastered that. Especially with no training whatsoever.
How do you know he

so I was right, I guess, you were just messing with me

I could tell you were trying to figure me out.

How'd you even suspect? Is it because you trained with Hydra Lestrange.

No one else knows, really.

That is, it's marked as one of my 'training skills' but as far as anyone else knows, I've not got much talent in the area.

Yeah, it is. I knew about her, obviously, and I trained with her anytime she'd fight me just because she's so good in a duel. Anyway she usually knew what I was going to do before I did it, and I learned a few tricks to throw her off at least a bit.

You duel -- it's not exactly like her, but I noticed you anticipated moves I didn't think I was signaling and you weren't falling for the things I was trying to signal. I tried some of what worked when I was dueling Hydra and it worked with you.
Yeah, well you throw me off my game a bit. That's funny. Whenever someone else has started to suspect (not that many have), I usually misread them on purpose so that they go back to thinking I've not got a clue.

And the talking a lot. That throws people off, too. Most people believe that anyone who talks a lot only wants to hear himself speak.

Sorry I didn't tell you.

You're the first person I have told outright.

You said MLE knew, though, how'd they work it out if you didn't tell them?

Anyway, thanks.

For trusting me.

I experimented a bit to see if having the skill would take me further along the career path that I wanted. Interrogation, Surveillance, that sort of thing.

But I eventually worked out that it would be more advantageous in the long run (although it's been a painfully slow long run) if I kept the skill a secret and continued to use
it without people knowing.

As for trusting

Yeah, I reckon I do.

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@alt_seamus at 2015-06-05 20:48:10

(no subject)

Here's the thing. You know I'm from Ireland, you know Ireland's crawling with violent muggles, and years ago, the Lord Protector wanted to set up some sort of ward that would keep the Irish muggles from coming over here. But there was no way to do that without making it very difficult for the wizards, too, and my family -- my mother's family -- promised they'd keep things under control. They handed over some of my blood, to go into the regular wards. If they lost control of things, the Lord Protector could have someone use me, to make that ward against Ireland.

So you probably remember that bomb that almost killed Dominic Selwyn, at least if you were working in MLE. It did kill Ron Weasley's father. That was IMA -- don't know if they told you that, were you in MLE yet? High enough to hear? There was some story they put out, it wasn't true. Anyway.

So that was supposed to be it, for me. The ward needed blood, a whole lot of blood, and a death, and that's actually why -- I mean, I'd always known that could happen? And I wrote a note to Padma and to Neville, to say goodbye, and Neville decided he'd go to Antonin Dolohov because surely, he said, surely they'd come up with an alternative. And I was weak and said okay. And what Dolohov came up with was that someone related to me would work just fine so instead of me being sacrificed, it was my mother, and instead of Dolohov doing the sacrificing, it was me. Well, he helped with the bloodletting afterward. It was

I can't

WHY would any of them think I would be grateful for that?

She was my mother. She was the only person who ever
That's when I was a trainee, but yeah, I heard. I mean, not really about you. Or your mother. Who expected you to be grateful? Who said you ought to be?

Terry fucking Boot. Longbottom.

He said I owed Neville a life debt, and there would be all sorts of magical repercussions for betraying that, and I don't even know why I'm listening to that FUCKING MUDBLOOD who spent most of his life licking the soles of Carrow's boots. (Literally. I mean that literally.)

And, I mean, I'm not listening to him.

It's just that I haven't been able to stop thinking about my mother, all day.

She wanted to make it easier for me.

I mean she was trying to protect me, still, even though
Seamus, I'm sorry.
This explains so much about you.

Yeah, well, so that's the other reason I think Padma's mad if she believes the Order would go easy on me.

They took me away and put me in fostering with Mr Rosier, I wasn't even allowed to write to her, from September 1 when I was eleven years old until the day I had to kill her.

That's fucking horrid.
Don't be too sure about the Order. I doubt Boot speaks for them, even if he does go by the name Longbottom now.

But you're not going to turn yourself in to the Order.
You're going to stay here with me.

Yes. I am.
Ha.

I really am the biggest fucking idiot sometimes.

Let it be noted.

What? Why?

I thought if we just kept on as mates and avoided the whole shagging thing that it would keep me from developing an attachment to you.

But look at me, with the whole "stay here," "don't go" nonsense.

Surely I'm not actually fooling you.

I try not to assume I'm right if I think someone likes me.

Sometimes it's been wishful thinking.
Nah, you're right.

I'm just not sure what to do about it.

Well, I promised I wouldn't try to kiss you. So if you've changed your mind about shagging me, you'll have to make the first move.

I like this calculating side of you.

You don't want to think about your mother.

I don't want you to think about your mother.

Meet me in my rooms in an hour.

I'll see to it that you don't think about her or anything related to this for a good long while.

I'll see you in an hour.
Many happy returns, Draco!

I'm looking forward to your party tonight.

Cheers.
So am I.

Happy birthday.

Thanks much.

Happy birthday, Draco. Truly, I'm wishing you every possible happiness.

Remember on your birthday to always duck at least a foot under door lintels and enter a room with your left foot rather of your right, and above all, don't let the grizziewinches bite!
Grizziewinches?

I'm glad you're feeling more like yourself, Luna.

Hermione,

That's just what I was going to say!

Happy birthday, Draco, and thank you for including me and Hydra in the occasion for celebration.

-J

No problem. See you all soon.

Cheers Draco. Many Happy Returns.

Private Message to Mum and Dad

Just wanted to let you know I'm back at Stornoway, safe and sound.

I'll be at Hogwarts first thing Monday.

Professor Siz'll be back Monday as well, and passed along that she'd rather no-one write unless it's an emergency.

I love you both very much.

And

It was so lovely to see you two dancing tonight.

It just

It was very good to see.

how's that one song go?

a time to mourn, a time to dance, a time to cast away stones, a time to gather stones together

we're still mourning plenty, but it's good to take the time to dance a little too.

glad you're there safe and sound, my brilliant girl.
Yes indeed.

Make sure you get at least some sleep, lovie.
Профессор
I’ve caught bits and pieces of what others have said. When I said yes to clerking, I hadn’t joined. I was Harry’s man, but I knew nothing else. Then that came later, not all of us flew close to our mentors to put a wand at their backs with intent. We were just students joined in fighting a petty tyrant. I knew Harry had friends, we’d started talking. How else could he have disappeared Sarah? I can’t recall what’s been played out in public, yes Sarah’s alive, we got her away from that damned pink... well one less dead student weighing on your scales. There are so many so many others. That’s what caught me in your orbit, her stupid brother’s pointless.

I danced the night they saved Arista and Hector from that madman’s thing. Pureblood innocents. Not that blood matters to you. Felt useless that night too. Merlin, Linus is easy to manipulate, even for a Badger. He knew nothing, just that that I asking him to dance conspicuously to help distract when they all left. I hear you let them go that night. Battle of Hogwarts would have ended entirely differently if you hadn’t. Do you regret anything?

You made me sit outside the door while the HEAD OF MY HOUSE was tortured, YOU tortured her. You tortured one of the most loyal, hardest working women I’ve ever known to death because there might have been some money missing. Linus is good with his numbers, it’d kill him if we told him what he did giving you those numbers.

I’m twice dead already, couple other close flown spots, down a limb now just like the Razzer. I wouldn’t be where I am without the two of you. Or all the smart, brave, sneaky, loyal Order members who gave me something to do with the rage you two started started with your questions and training.

Merde tlaking to too many French. think i’ll have another.
Drink your sobering potion before bed, or have a hangover potion waiting for the morning.

Do I regret anything? Of course I do. You do not make it to my age without regrets; if you have, it means you've played things far too safely. Letting the children go from the battle at Mysteries will never be a regret, though. I could not save Dominic, but I could allow his children to be saved. If that planted the seeds of this, well. The world is as it is, and not as you or I would have it.

I am sorry for your loss.
**2015-06-05 23:20:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Sally-Anne, Ron, Pansy, Draco, Hermione, and Hydra*

Is anyone still at the party?

I'm sorry we had to slip away for a while, what. I hope we weren't missed.

We'll come back if things are still as lively as they were.

-J

---

**alt_sally_anne** at **2015-06-06 04:24:13**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, people are still dancing. Come on back.

---

**alt_draco** at **2015-06-06 04:25:35**

*(no subject)*

Oh, Merlin's pants you two WOULD be the ones to sneak off and go shag behind a statue or something. Making up for all that last time and what.

You should come back its getting boring and people are starting to leave

---

**alt_justin** at **2015-06-06 04:43:23**

*Private Message to Draco*

I think the more impressive feat is that you and Hermione *didn't* go sneaking off, what. Have you looked at how they looked tonight, Hydra and Hermione?

We are lucky blokes.

-Justin


**alt_draco** at 2015-06-06 04:46:28

Re: Private Message to Draco

Looked? You think I'm blind?

Mind I was really only looking at Hermione, not Hydra.

**alt_pansy** at 2015-06-06 04:36:37

(no subject)

You missed Sirius dragging Mr Lupin out on the dance floor

And Mr Longbottom asked Birdwhistle for a dance too

...the representatives who are still around are pissed, and still trying to debate something, which is hilarious. One of them is trying to illustrate his point with various arrangements of puddings.

**alt_justin** at 2015-06-06 04:53:46

(no subject)

Pansy, I'm sorry I missed that. Or perhaps I'm not!

-J

**alt_pansy** at 2015-06-06 05:26:48

(no subject)

It was very sweet, actually.

It was to the Beatles. If I Fell. And Sirius was singing along the entire time.
2015-06-05 23:30:00
*Order Only Private message to Bill, Rachel, and Tonks*

Huh, I just realised, we don't have to use Order Only for just our little personal stuff, do we? It's going to take me a while to break that habit.

Anyway. Rachel, Tonks, Bill and I thought it might be nice to have a picnic out by the lake for lunch tomorrow. I know we're all busy to hell and gone, but I'm trying to be a good role model for my kids about taking time to recover and stand down a bit, so we'd love to have you two join us. You can bring anybody else you want, really, I just want to be a bit ostentatious about doing something that is Not Work.

---

**alt_rachel** at 2015-06-06 04:57:45
*(no subject)*

Oh, good idea.

I've still been using Order Only when I can, because I know they watch for journal traffic and I don't want them gleaning anything I don't have to let them see. Though of course that just makes it more visible when I post to my Aurors and Enforcers, which can't be Order Only since some of them aren't in the Order.

Anyway, you're on for the picnic.

You still at the party?

---

**alt_charlie** at 2015-06-06 05:04:03
*(no subject)*

Yeah, I think it'll take a while for us to get used to not needing it anymore!

Let's say one o'clock for the picnic, and meet in the Great Hall. I'll make arrangements with the elves.

And no, I left a few hours ago to go be a shoulder to cry on for one of my kids, and decided afterwards I was just too exhausted to keep
being social. Came to come help Mum with the babysitting a bit instead, and I'm off to bed any minute now.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-06-06 05:23:16
(no subject)

Sounds brilliant. I am fully prepared to be ostentatious in my leisure. I might take a dip in the lake if it isn't too terribly cold. Regardless, a large floppy hat and a pair of sunglasses will be in order.

alt_charlie at 2015-06-06 05:25:03
(no subject)

Ooh, a dip sounds lovely. I'll bring a towel with me!

alt_bill at 2015-06-06 14:29:41
(no subject)

Ask the elves for some of the egg salad sandwiches with curry, will you? Rachel and I are really partial to curry.

I'll need to find a kite. Rachel and Tonks: Kites at a picnic are a Weasley family tradition.

See you at one. It'll be fun, and Merlin knows we all desperately need the break.
2015-06-06 08:41:00
Order Only - Private message to Draco Malfoy

11 February 1993

7 June 1997

9 May 1998

16 May 1998

16 May 1998

___ ___ ___

___ ___ ___

___ ___ ___

___ ___ ___

___ ___ ___

___ ___ ___
So that Colin bloke who works with Mr Longbottom. The one who's with Lovegood.

He's Dennis's brother?

You know, Dennis Dennis?

Last night was sort of mad. Being at a party with Sirius Black. Who goes to a party with Sirius Black? I mean. Just dancing around and singing along to things and everything.

Mad.

I think Megs would've just about

Got to talking with one of the blokes who fought here, Tim somebody, and it was just

I had no idea there was all that going on before all this happened. All that hidden stuff. The school. The towns. I knew about the radio, but I thought it was

I don't know. Just three people sitting in front of a microphone or something.

And then all these random kids show up at the school, people who were supposed to be dead or kidnapped or whatever and people like Tim and Colin who were there this whole time instead of here or

Anyways.

Headmistress Vector and Charlie Weasley told me they'd sit on me if I didn't take a day off. And I don't know what to do. What are you doing?
2015-06-06 14:33:00  
Order Only: Private message to Alice Longbottom, Remus Lupin, and Bill and Charlie Weasley

I simply don't understand the irresistible urge that is apparently driving several people in the Order to write to Antonin Sodding Dolohov.

I don't intend to write to him myself. But if I suddenly discover that I am beginning to feel that overwhelming urge, I promise to come find one of the four of you first.

If and when I do, I would deeply appreciate it if you would immediately put me in full-body bind, take away my journal, and not allow me to have ink and quill for a month.

Thank you.

alt_alice at 2015-06-06 20:13:54  
(no subject)

I suspect our Evie might want to write him as well, because there's a debt she feels she owes. Merlin knows, these things are complicated.

They might be angry at him for how he left Hogwarts so vulnerable and are lashing out, or want to know how deep his allegiances lie, as he does a rather good job at projecting reasonableness and is no longer at the beck and call of His Mightiness.

I take a small degree in satisfaction that he was so roundly betrayed by so many he trusted. But I'd imagine the process of working one's way into someone's confidences can make that relationship difficult to sever without feeling the need to explain.

I just like to imagine they're all just taking turns yelling at him now that they can.
alt_alice at 2015-06-06 20:14:25  
(no subject)

And you can get in line to yell at him too if you'd like, Molly love. I wouldn't take your journal away for the world if you had one of your epic Howlers in mind.

alt_molly at 2015-06-06 21:15:50  
(no subject)

Well, he's certainly someone who needs a Howler. A terrible oversight in his upbringing, I am sure.

Maybe the history of the Protectorate would have turned entirely if he had.

alt_bill at 2015-06-06 21:18:42  
(no subject)

Um. Okay.

Can't think why you'd want to, anyway. Since all your kids are out of his clutches now.

alt_molly at 2015-06-06 21:21:09  
(no subject)

Oh, I don't know.

Because he still has Percy's tooth?

alt_bill at 2015-06-06 21:29:14  
(no subject)

Oh, Mum.

Does that still bother you? After all the blood spilt, all the other losses we've had? And the fact that we've managed to boot the bastard out of here?
Yes. Yes, it does, damn him.

And how wretched and ungrateful I feel, admitting to such a thing in front of Alice. At least I was able to bury my boy.

Frank and Alice have nothing left to them that was Neville's.

Hang on...maybe he doesn't still have it. I mean he was living here, wasn't he?

Maybe he kept it in his private quarters at Hogwarts.

Perhaps, but no one's managed to break those wards yet, have they?

True. But it hasn't been our highest priority.

But we'll certainly do it before he'll come back to politely ask us to return his books. And when we do, well, there's any number of the students who've learned the necessary blood tracing spell.
Don't fret, Mum. If anyone sees that tooth again, it'll be us and not him. Then you can do whatever you want with it.

 решили мама. Если кто-то увидит этот зуб снова, это будет мы и не он. Тогда вы можете делать с ним всё, что вам захочется.

 alt_molly at 2015-06-06 21:54:45  
(no subject)

Well. I'm not going to write him to politely ask him what his password is.

Well. I'm not going to write him to politely ask him what his password is.

Thank you, Bill. It's such a small thing that it's almost nonsensical. But thank you.

Thank you, Bill. Это так маленькая вещь, что это почти неразумно. Но спасибо.
I'm still angry at you. I suspect you're still quite angry at me.

But I also can't forget how much you did for me. A year ago today, and the months after. When I couldn't do for myself. Couldn't think. Couldn't anything.

I can't forget that it was choices you made that ended up saving my life. Choices you made that ended up saving other lives. Even while other choices you made

Well. You know me. I will be fair, to the furthest reaches I have in me. I wish

I thank you - again, always - for the choices that turned out well. And I wish so many things were different.

I keep looking at the ones who are alive because of you, and being glad, even while I think of all the ones who aren't.

(That there is a Linus who is now discovering Muggle poetry is perhaps something of a trial at times, but decidedly preferable to a Linus who would have charged into a fight he could never survive for the glory of it.)

I miss you

We are all what our choices have made us, for all that certain choices have narrowed down the chance for future choice until it is no choice at all. Anger is counterproductive when one has so much one must do.

And -- as I suspect I know what has prompted you to write today, and that it is the same thing that had me planning to write you tonight -- you ought to know that I've said what I can remember of the панухида for him today. (Unfortunately, my prayer-books in my
quarters at Hogwarts, and so I could not say it straight through, but I have done what I could.) May his name be written for a thousand years; may his souls be blessed upon their journey; may he rest in peace.

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-08 03:42:12
(no subject)

You must miss your books very much. I wonder if

Thank you, Tosha. For remembering. For your prayers.

You are right about anger. Mostly I am too busy to be angry.

Someone asked me today about a complicated thing, and if it would not be better to do it with more sleep, and I pointed out that I have not slept well for a year, and do not expect it to change any time soon, and I might as well learn to do complicated things as I am now.

Which is to say, when I am exceptionally tired, I am sometimes angry, but sometimes other things. Guilty. Jealous. Aching.

The thing that's hardest right now is not having people I can talk to who remember him as a complicated person. Or, for that matter, understand you as a complicated person.

And the part where - the part where if he hadn't died a year ago, I keep having flashes of moments, not quite dreams, of all the places he'd have died in the past month, if he weren't already dead. Complicated is not the word.

Sorry. I am about to go drown my sorrows in a suitably proportionate amount of decent brandy, such as will allow me to go back to being a diligent and appropriate sort of badger tomorrow, not given so much to flights of what-ifs, or at least not talking about them.
alt_antonin at 2015-06-08 06:04:36
(no subject)

We've had our conversations on grieving, and on faith, and on the individual nature of healing and recovery, but if you are left with no one else with whom to speak, I can certainly give you the speech again.

Despite her faith in the world hereafter, my mother mourned my father until the day she died, some thirty years after him. I do not remind you of this to make you feel as though matters are hopeless, or that you are doomed to mourn for the remainder of your days, but to remind you that grief is complex, shifting, and personal. It will change. You will never be without it, but some pieces of it will deepen while others fade; grief is a living thing, as are memories and remembrances, and it will grow and change with you until you find a new stability, for all that it will be a stability shaped and informed by it.

If you are in need of someone with whom to talk, you may always write to me.

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-08 16:01:58
(no subject)

Oh, Toshenka.

You are right. (You are often right, really. It is one of your qualities that is both charming and frustrating.)

It shifts and changes, and I have some sense of the patterns now, and that helps. I think that was the thing that was hardest all this year, not having any idea what to expect (and you know me, how badly I manage things I have not prepared for. For all I went into loving and marrying Raz knowing he did not have a safe life, the specifics make more of a difference than I'd charted in advance.)

It is not so much I need the speech, I think, but to know that there is space where I can say "I miss him" and have it not be immensely complicated. Only a little complicated. (There is no place in the world without complicated, these days, is there?)
I woke up this morning from a dream of a half dozen bits of memory and conversation. About the patronus charm, and the memories Raz used his last year or two, and the conversation with you about casting it, and all.

It was not a big deeply meaningful dream, I am not at all sure I could trust one of those. But it was comforting. Only it made me realise, you must miss Fridays, as they were, as I miss both Fridays and Saturdays now.

I should have asked. How are you? (And I do not mean 'what is keeping you so busy', because I no more expect you to tell me that than I will tell you, but the other things.) I saw that Lucius wrote you, and I hope that helped, a little.

I am right, except, apparently, when I am very wrong. I've spent more time feeling like a fool this past month than I have these ten years and gone.

I miss Raz, too. And yes, I do miss our Fridays, and have for quite some time. And while we are at it, I miss my office, and I miss my quarters, and I miss my books, and I miss the portrait of Elisabeth Emory and her colourful commentary on anything and everything, and I miss teaching, and I miss the children, even the ones I am dreadfully angry at, and I miss Cairo and New Orleans and Paris and New York. And I have run out of coffee.

None of that, however, can be helped. Choices, as I said. I made my choices long enough ago that I cannot choose otherwise now, and for all I must be grateful to you lot for ridding us all of a monster, I cannot allow that gratitude to sway me from my path.

It was you -- well, your lot -- who broke Lyoushka out of Azkaban, was it not? It must have been Draco; knowing he is alive makes much come clear. I suppose I must be grateful to you for that, as well.
I didn't want to disturb yesterday when you had your (much deserved) day off, but, have you heard from Nick and John? They said something about a quick jaunt back to the Ministry for - a missing box of files? I know we tried to retrieve as much as possible as quickly as possible. They insisted it was essential, though, to the redistribution project, and that they'd be quick and careful getting in and out.

I've been asking round, quietly, and no one seems to have seen them since yesterday lunchtime. Twenty-four hours is not what I'd call quick.

You haven't heard that they hit trouble and had to lie low, have you?

I haven't, and I had no idea they were headed there. Shite, they haven't checked in anywhere--not with Davidson or anyone? If they were going for Ministry files, I don't think they'd head to Aldrich or Bedford afterwards; they'd come here.

Bloody hell. That's not like either of them. Have you alerted Rachel?

Well, they don't report to her directly, and she was off yesterday, as well. I thought I'd check with you before raising an alarm.

Well, I haven't heard from them, so we'd better raise the alarm.
I'll try to find her and pass the word along if you don't find her first.

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-07 19:02:04
(no subject)

I understand, Bill, only - raise an alarm to do what, exactly? If they're not back, they more than likely met with enemy forces, which means it's probably unsafe to follow.

I told them they were pushing their luck after all this time, but they seemed sure no one would detect them. It's not as if I could order them not to go, though.

@alt_bill at 2015-06-07 19:08:24
(no subject)

I found her and spoke with her. She agrees, and she's plenty hacked off that they went anyway. Since the building's in the old MLE territory now, it's a pretty good bet they've probably erected wards all round it, since we can't apparate in.

Bugger all. We just have to hope that we're wrong and they'll eventually check in somewhere.

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-07 19:10:09
(no subject)

That's what I was afraid would be the case. I'm sorry.
2015-06-08 11:26:00
Private message to Baylock

Bring Rigel to my offices in a half-hour.

Usual accompaniments.

@alt_bellatrix
ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Mum, Dad, Charlie, and Siz

I finished up the last of the observations this morning, and will be back in about an hour.

Stornoway is utterly brilliant, and everyone there was very welcoming. People let me just natter on about the projects we were working on, and Mr Emmett and Mrs Overton kept suggesting that I'd have a job there if I ever wanted one.

I miss you both very much.

Being at Stornoway was exciting and interesting, but it was

Spending a few nights away was harder than I thought it would be.

I can't wait to see you soon.

I know what you mean, sweetie.

missed you too.

glad you got some use out of the visit, and got on well with the people there, but it'll be good to see you again.

I really did have a good time, mostly, and everyone was very kind. I am so very sorry I woke up everyone in the women's barracks last night, but Alec kept me company in the mess hall after and showed me his scrimshaw carving and told me about the stories in it, and asked me
all sorts of questions about my research, and Sasha made sure I had plenty of tea, and it really was fine.

Nobody said a word to me when I came by today, so I'm sure it wasn't a problem. We tend to sleep light, because of the dragons, but we're all very used to rolling over and going back to sleep when something wakes us up -- you can't work the shifts we work without being used to it.

Nightmare, I'm guessing? Maybe Hermione has something that's a little less dangerous than Dreamless.

And Sasha's wonderful for sitting with in the wee hours. She mothers us all shamelessly. Did Alec show you the Hogwarts carving he did, or was he just sitting in the mess hall with his work bag and showed you the stuff that was in it? I swear, he's a genius at that stuff. I learned woodcarving from Greg a few winters ago -- I'm really bad at it but I'm getting better! -- and Alec keeps telling me I need to learn scrimshaw too, but the charms are about fifty times more complex.

Yeah.

Nev was taking the curse for me instead of Mr Shacklebolt. And he was just standing there in front of me with his arms hanging at his sides like he was sleepwalking or dead and I couldn't see his face and I was so afraid that he'd turn round

I'll talk to her.

And Sasha was wonderful. And I didn't get to see the Hogwarts one, but Alec told me all about it, and said I'd have to see it next time round. The one he was working on really was marvellous -- I'd no idea they could look like that.
Oh, that's rough.

After my father died, I had nightmares for a few weeks that it was me or Mum or Bill he'd saved instead of Selwyn, or that he pushed Selwyn out of the way just fine but the blast was stronger and it killed both of them, or ... well, yeah, you know how it goes. The brain likes to taunt us with what-if a lot, I think. Especially after something huge like what we all just went through. It's as though what really happened wasn't bad enough, our brains have to come up with ways it could have been even worse.

It goes away, though. Or it did for me, and it has for everybody else who's ever mentioned that kind of nightmares to me. That's probably not a comfort now, but it does go away, and you can remember Neville the way he was instead of the way your worst-case-scenario mind likes to throw at you.

Alec's stuff is amazing, yeah. We all keep telling him he needs to sell them or something, instead of just giving them away to whoever admires them or stacking them in his quarters. I kept telling him he should get a stall in the market and get someone to sell them for him and he'd make galleons hand over fist. But he keeps saying he's too lazy to handle all the business end of things!

I'd bet it isn't laziness, because no-one who takes that much care with things can possibly be lazy.

Perhaps he ought to display them in a museum or something instead.

Thank you, Charlie.

That does help some.
Re: Private Message to Charlie

Well, he calls it laziness! So if you think it's something else, you'll have to yell at him about it. Maybe if you tell him he should do something with what he's producing, he'll listen to you!

And you're welcome. I'm glad I could help a bit. And hey, I've been playing counselor and shoulder-to-cry-on cool Uncle Charlie to most of your classmates for a few weeks now, but I've mostly been figuring you can sort yourself out with knowing what needs to get done and knowing who you can lean on if you need to lean on somebody. If you do need a shoulder, though, or just a cup of tea, you can always come find me.

Re: Private Message to Charlie

I really miss Mr Snape. He used to be my
tutor. I wouldn't say I leaned on him, it was more he let me sit in the corner and read while he worked, or tutted me about my breathing exercises, or talked to me when I wasn't feeling terribly calm to help me gain a sense of perspective, and what he said always made sense.

You make a great deal of sense too. Of course. Which is why you have such leanable shoulders. People can tell that sort of thing pretty quickly, you know.

I think I'm sorting for the most part, but every now and then it takes me by surprise. Dad's been good about listening when I need it. And it was better last night.

I'll let you know if I ever need that cup of tea, though.

I'm about to head back to Hogwarts, likewise.

Evelyn, you know where to find me when you're ready,
but do take some time to catch up with people if you like.

Charlie, please do thank everyone again for both of us, it was tremendously helpful to see actual dragons being dragons and talk through some of the different theories, and hear a range of opinions.

I've got a few things I want to research in the library here before we make any more decisions, but I feel much better informed. (In particular, there's that line of thought Thom had, about whether the wards were more solidly anchored by the native species, and what that means given your population at the moment.)

I might want another visit to check on things when we're closer to an actual specific plan, but it really was a great help.

---

**alt_charlie** at **2015-06-09 05:11:53**
(no subject)

I will do. Dree said she really enjoyed having both of you. (And Ev, you'd better watch out, I had six different people tell me that they're going to try to recruit you!)

And yeah, Thom's convinced that the anchors are stronger with the Welsh Greens and Hebridean Blacks, but of course we don't really have a way to measure it. But if that's the case, we might actually be lucky -- well, lucky is a relative term, but you know what I mean -- because we might be able to lure in a few more of the wild-born to help diffuse the load. Once they get to a certain age, you can't teach them to tolerate humans, but we've got at least four or five wild-born kits on tracking that we might be able to bring in. If we can do it without getting in between them and their parents, mind you.
2015-06-08 22:18:00
Private Message to B Lestrange and T Rowle

Received draft of *Prophet* article (Doyle's work, for the most part) and Nesbitt's been prepped for the WWN tomorrow morning. Highlights:

Nesbitt family were found in their Watford home, quite tragically dead, with the exception of Galen Nesbitt, age 29.

Mr Nesbitt returned from work just in time to see the Phoenixes fleeing the scene. He particularly recognised Black's enchanted motorcycle. He also believes he saw young Malfoy - distinctive, after all, and his picture was just in their rag of a paper on Sunday.

Mr Nesbitt then entered his family's home and found his parents, his sister and an uncle who lived with them, all dead. He immediately contacted MLE. On questioning, we learned that the family had been contacted because his mother is a Healer and the false government is in desperate need of qualified staff. According to Nesbitt, the family had no intention of defecting and Mrs Nesbitt had not replied. Malfoy and Black must have shown up and not taken no for an answer.

Any further refinements?

From there Crispin will talk about how to contribute to the cause so that MLE will be better equipped to protect those who live in these outlying communities.

Oh, and we've a confirmed identity on one of the two warlocks found at the old Ministry site: Towler.

---

*alt_bellatrix* at 2015-06-09 03:34:31
(no subject)

Addition:

*At this time, MLE believes that the Phoenix is a threat to anyone with known skills in healing, potionering,*
infrastructure, food distribution, (etc).

Towler, with the brother who went down in the Frost Faire?

Well then. We have put those "games" behind us - certainly any that would involve outsiders or the general public.

Very good.

Yes, that Towler. Can't ID the other. Suspect camps but without easy access to accurate records.... In any case, preparing a second piece emphasising the Phoenixes' infiltration of the city and their dangerous desperation when cornered.

Well done.

Best to provide yet another outside witness to quote. Someone of modest reputation, yet respected.

Shouldn't be a problem.
This is all sorts of awkward, Molly, but I don't know what else I can say except for the truth.

I lost my job recently, and things in New London have been getting downright desperate. My old friend Karoline Baddock started doing favours for me, helping to cover my bills, and making sure I had access to food, that sort of thing. And once I owed her more than I could ever pay back, her husband made me a job offer I knew I couldn't turn down. Not if I wanted to keep living.

And yesterday, I was sitting in a meeting, taking notes (because that's the only job they let me do -- that and babysit the children), and Virgil Crispin needed to know whether Percy had been a spy or not, and I volunteered to see if I could find out, because it'd give me an excuse to write you.

I'm in over my head. I'm scared, and I'm alone. I thought things would be different, better, less complicated, but it's just more of the same, and I feel like I've just made the world's biggest mistake. But what else is there? I hear so many different versions of the same story, and everyone has an agenda, and the world somehow feels even less safe than it did before. I don't know who to turn to, who to trust, I can't even confide in my best friend, and no-one here pays me the least mind -- I might as well be a servant.

You've always been so kind to me. You and your family. You were so good to write after Percy was killed, and those Sunday dinners felt so much like I was really coming home. And I'll never forget Arthur, and how thoughtful he was, and how you both tried your best to reach out to me while Percy was breaking it off. It was just so decent of you both. And when I found out you were all working for the Order, well, I just didn't know what to think, really. It's like everything's on its head these days.

I miss Percy terribly sometimes. I know he had his issues, and Merlin knows we didn't always get along, but I did love him, and I'd like to think he loved me too, at least for a little. And I know how much he cared about all of you, even though he did an absolutely terrible job of showing it sometimes, and that you loved him so very much.
I don't think he was a spy. I just wanted to write you and say that I was so sorry for what has happened to all of us.

I don't know what to do, Molly. I just don't.

---

@alt_molly at 2015-06-10 01:19:03
(no subject)

Penny,

Thank you for writing to me. I'm glad that you remembered my message to you at the time of Percy's death. I did mean what I said to you back then, that I had once hoped you would join our family.

I couldn't be honest with you at the time, however, Penny. I can't be entirely honest now with you over the journals--after all, you've told me yourself that the people you're working with have tasked you to find out intelligence about the Order, and I'm not inclined to oblige them--and that includes information about Percy's loyalties. But if you are wavering, wondering who to believe, and you think that you loved Percy, then I think you should know that we believe that Percy didn't die by accident.

We have good reason to believe he was murdered, by the very people to whom he gave his loyalty. The people for whom you are working now.

You called me kind and I hope I am. There are people I work with in the Order who sometimes say (in exasperation) that I'm soft-hearted. But I can't be soft-headed. My daughter-in-law is now in charge of the Aurors for the new nation we are building, and I have a son who is an Auror now. I must be mindful of our security, just as I was for all the years the Order was secret.

You said that conditions are becoming desperate in New London. What exactly do you mean by that? What do you want to do, Penny, dear? If you want meaningful work (if hard work), there is plenty to do, dismantling the remains of the Protectorate and helping us find a new way forward. It will mean accepting Muggles as equals. It will mean you will be working every day with Muggleborns. You would have to leave New London, I imagine, and many of the people you know.
Think about the people you know on each side, and what is important to them. Does that help you see where you want to give your true allegiance?

@alt_molly at 2015-06-10 01:52:58
(no subject)

And I'm very sorry you're frightened, Penny. I'm sorry you feel alone. I'm listening, I promise...but you are the one who must decide what you want your future to be.

@alt_penelope at 2015-06-11 03:38:21
(no subject)

There were a tonne of shortages. Queues for hours, and when you got to the front, they'd be charging ridiculous prices for the handful of things they had left, and you'd be grateful to get them. And hardly anyone has a steady paycheck, so I've seen people trying to exchange silverware for food. I was honestly worried about starving, and when Karo brought me in, it was such a relief at first, because they had a steady supply of things.

At least the streets were safe at night, and they had the good sense to lift the restrictions for halfbloods. Even though there isn't any crime to speak of, or restrictions, most people still stay inside most nights because they're so frightened. It sounds like an utter war zone outside of New London -- that story about the Healer family was just horrifying. I knew Draco was dangerous, he'd killed before, after all, but this just seemed beyond the pale -- from what I can see, the best anyone can do out in the county is to Fidelius and hold tight until things calm down.

I hear about destruction and terror, about the anarchy and brutality of the camps and Ireland and how they treated their former masters, people missing from their beds at night, the tragedy of Hogwarts, and I don't see a new hopeful future, Molly. I see a world that's descended into utter chaos, and it seems that's the future your people want.

I know you don't trust me. Not even enough to tell me whether my entire relationship with your son was built on a lie. But if you're not
telling me anything, all I'm hearing is about the violence caused by
the Order, and I want no part in it.

The reason I'm writing you is because all of this seems so
uncharacteristic of the Molly I knew and loved, and it makes me
truly question things, but if you honestly believe that all this is
what's best for our people...

Maybe there's something to those stories after all.

---

@alt_molly at 2015-06-11 22:46:37
(no subject)

No, there isn't any truth to those stories, Penny. The story
told in the *Prophet* that Draco and Sirius killed a healer's family is an utter bald-faced lie.
They are trying to frame us for their own murders.
Knowing me as you do, do you really think I would work for years
for a group that would do such a reprehensible thing? Do you
honestly think that Madam Pomfrey would give her loyalty to a
group who would kill a healer's family?

If you worry about the 'anarchy and brutality' of the camps--who
created those camps in the first place? Who decided it was a good
idea to herd people behind walls and barbed wire and force them
to work as slaves? Why did Arthur, who personally worked every
day with the camps and saw the suffering there, give his support
to the Order instead of the Protectorate?

If you want to know what Sirius' purposes are, look back through
the Grim Truths. Here are some examples:

- *Ellie also talked with us about the change we desired for England, restoring a government that valued equality, condemning the cruel treatment of muggles for no crime other than being in the majority population, recognising that anyone born capable of magic has the right to hold a wand and freeing all of Britain once more, reconnecting it to the rest of the world. We made sure she had a wand and taught her to use it.*

- *The next time you find yourself wondering whether the person you are talking to would accuse you of treason if you spoke your mind, remember what it was like to be able to*
say what you thought, when you thought it. Remember the last time you were truly free to choose friends, not based on their birthright but the kind of person they are.

• I and those who fight alongside me also uphold:

The right to learn to use magic if one is born with the ability, regardless of bloodline;
The right to liberty and the freedom to choose where and how one makes one’s living;
The right to contact with one’s loved ones, be they muggle, squib or magical;
The right to think and speak freely in agreement with or dissent from authority without fear of reprisal;
The right to conduct one’s business without inflicting or becoming the victim of random violence;
The right to live peacefully and without fear of government detention, arrest or attack without just cause;
The right to food, clothing, shelter, healing care and education for all, regardless of magical birthright;
The right to fair pay in exchange for labour, goods or services rendered for all people, by mutual agreement of both labourer and beneficiary.

In contrast, if you want to know what the old regime is about, think of the Frost Faire.
Think of the fact that the Head Girl, YOUR successor, was murdered at Hogwarts, at her very own wedding, at the order of the so-called Lord Protector.
Think of last December, when the Protectorate put werewolves and inferi in an arena to tear apart people for sport.

You’ve seen, with your own eyes, the old Protectorate's actions. On the other hand, you’ve known me and Arthur. You’ve sat at our table, listened to our conversations, saw how we raised our children. Why would we want a world of utter chaos?

Which side do you honestly think is more believable when they say they are working for the good of all?
Order Only: Private Message to Ron

Ron,

I just met with Rachel. She's got a new assignment for me but recommended I take someone along. Care to get out of the castle for a while? It might be a day or two.

If you've something else on, what, I'll ask Draco. I say, he's always up for any sort of action these days.

I'll be leaving just after lunchtime. Write back or just come and find me if you'd like to go.

-Justin

I'm in.

Any particular sort of kit needed?

Brilliant! Cheers.

Bill had records of his last known address. It's New London (Paddington, what), so Rachel's authorised a few doses of Polyjuice, which I'm requisitioning from Hermione's stores.

We'll want standard camp packs but I suspect we'll be able to find someplace nearby the target to keep up surveillance. I don't think we'll be out in the open too often.

It's not a Councilwizard this time, but he works for their MLE. Ian Boyde. The mission is to bring him in, if possible, and only kill if necessary.
2015-06-09 18:22:00
Order Only Private Message to Sirius Black and Draco Malfoy

I’ve been listening to the grim 'details' on the WWN. About Effie Nesbitt and her family.

Bless.

What I need to know... is whether you were actually there. And if so, what went wrong.

I hadn't realised you'd Alice had—

Perhaps you knew she was one of the Healers I've been in touch with, in hopes of recruiting help?

I'd not had an answer from her yet, which- well, I'd taken it to mean she didn't think she could persuade Avi her husband, or didn't want to displace the whole family. But I can't imagine they'd have given anyone cause to pull a wand against them.

Surely the whole report is false? Tell me please that they've made all of it up whole-cloth.

---

alt_sirius at 2015-06-09 23:45:18
(no subject)

Who is Effie Nesbitt?

I'm not sure where Draco is but I flew down to Dover yesterday, trying to help Cedric talk the French into letting Aleks's shipments through. And I've been here all day.

If you're listening to the WWN, Poppy, it's a fair guess whatever they're saying is a lie.
Of course.

Of course, it is.

All right, then.

It's nearly as disturbing this way, though. They've got an eyewitness: her son. He's certain he saw you and Draco. And the motorbike.

I'm sorry. It's only that he sounds so entirely certain and is so specific in his description. And doesn't at all sound as if he's been Imperiused or coerced to lie. Either he saw you or a very well-disguised imposter. Or has been made to believe he did.

You should turn it on if you've got a wireless handy. It's an ugly story, and one we're going to need to counter.
Is it possible he's giving false testimony willingly? Could he have found out she was interested in joining us and turned her in himself?

That could be it, I suppose.

Only he sounds so devastated. Not angry with her, but vengeful towards us.

It's been two years, perhaps, since I've seen him, but I've had supper with the family now and then, and he always seemed to have grown into a sensible young man. It's difficult for me to think he is lying about us willingly. But perhaps it's the only thing he can think to do?

And yet, he sounds so completely persuaded of what he saw.

I suppose I may be underestimating the power of acting and self-preservation as a motive.

Imperius?

But one can hear the detachment, and he simply doesn't sound it. Nor confunded.

If they wanted to find someone who would be believed to have been approached by the Order, it's certainly true that any number of people would know Effie and I have been friendly over the
years. Meetings at St M’s and training seminars. Social gatherings.

It makes me worry for anyone else I'm known to have been acquainted with. Especially people I've had open exchanges with in the journals, though without their archives, I'd have thought—And all my communication's been secretive since—

Why else would they have chosen Effie than for her connection to me? If they were planning to stage a crime they could blame on us.

But then, I know so very many people--I've traded on that familiarity again and again, recruiting for us and raising funds. And everyone who's been at the school 'knows' me or feels they do.

I'm sorry. My mind's still whirling.

**alt_sirius** at **2015-06-10 00:38:42**
(no subject)

This is the same tactic they always use, Poppy. Find people who might be used to hurt us, indirectly.

Don't drive yourself round the twist trying to ascribe motives. We'll address what needs to be addressed and hope that more people are skeptical than believe this tripe.

I'm truly sorry it's coming home to roost for you, though.
2015-06-09 19:45:00
Order Only: Prophet and WWN

There's been a story today going round the Protectorate that Draco and I killed a family who declined an offer to come work for the government of Albion.

Obviously, it's not true.

I don't want to rebut it directly, of course - I think that would be the wrong response - but if there are other ways to deflect what they're claiming and turn it back against them, we could use some more positive reports. Lee, what about the ladies and gents of the press we have with us now? It's high time we put our own propaganda machine to work.

alt_bill at 2015-06-10 13:38:47
(no subject)

Mum told me she had an exchange with someone in the journals with someone who said that the situation in New London is getting 'downright desperate.' I sent owls last night to three more of my contacts at WWN and The Prophet who may be rethinking their loyalties. I'll let you know if I hear anything back from them.

alt_bill at 2015-06-11 00:30:34
(no subject)

Right. I've heard back from two. Well, three, but that one was a Howler, so obviously not.

One is Fabius Aubrey, who works as a free lance writer now, but he used to be an investigative reporter at The Prophet. I think he tired of trying to shepherd factual articles past the editorial staff there. His mum's Aquinata Aubrey, who if I remember correctly is on the board of Purest Sparkle, and his cousin is Ganymede Bobolis, who left The Prophet to start Londinarium. There are a number of other publishing connections within his family, I believe. He says he'll work for us if he can do it under a pseudonym, at least at first. His family is large, so I can see the point that there are a lot of hostages for his actions if he wrote
under his own byline. On the other hand, that might be an advantage, since members of his family do work in several different publications. If he quietly approaches them one by one, we may get a mass exodus if Fabius convinces them and we time it right. And Fabius can be very convincing. I know his work, and it's solid stuff. He has loads of contacts, and he's a good writer.

The other is Madeleine Ross. When I was in Communications, she was my contact at WWN when we sent press releases out to publications. Very bright. She worked doing fetch-and-carry stuff at WWN, and she told me once that she was totally frustrated that they wouldn't let her take on more prestigious assignments due to her half-blood status. She know every aspect of radio broadcast. Her husband is now a hotel concierge; he lost his previous job as a charms designer for a security firm, again due to his half-blood status. Their daughter Paula is a student at Hogwarts.

Anyway, Madeleine and her husband want to come in, and she told me to expect them tomorrow. I believe she might be a good leadership choice for launching another radio station, like the one we have at Aldrich, if we can come up with a good site and enough equipment. I'll put Lee in touch with Fabius. We'll be communicating with him by owl to start.

Cross-checking my lists...Merlin, I'm clearly exhausted; I forgot the connection until now. Madeleine is also Artie Ross's mum.

Excellent work on the recruiting front. How soon can they start working hand-in-hand with the
others we already have (Saul, Cynthia, Eleanor, Ellen, Jed, etc.) and put together a cohesive platform?

@alt_bill at 2015-06-11 02:06:21  
(no subject)

Fabius is going to show up at the security checkpoint tomorrow morning, and after he's been cleared, he can meet with whomever we like. Do we want them to convene here, or with Lee in Aldrich? Luckily, since Fabius works free lance, his time is his own to determine, and he won't have a nosy employer wondering why he's popping out of the office.

I think Madeleine will need tomorrow to get her family settled, and then she can meet with the team the day after.
2015-06-09 22:15:00
Order Only Private Message to Justin

Getting breezy up here. And a bit boring.
Anything interesting on your side?

alt_ron

alt_justin at 2015-06-10 03:27:23
(no subject)

Ron,
Nothing too interesting, no.

Lights are still on both upstairs and down. His visitor hasn't left by the front. Not there either, I take it?

I say, this is the difficult part, the waiting. Last time I wrote to Hydra to pass the time.

alt_ron at 2015-06-10 03:35:14
(no subject)

No sign of anyone in the back garden at all. And no lights in the back of the house.

Hang on.

Eh. Must've opened a door on the first floor landing. There was a light there for a moment, but it went out again.

alt_justin at 2015-06-10 03:37:40
(no subject)

He's just turned off the light on the ground floor, perhaps he's getting ready to turn in.

Which likely means we'll have to wait til morning as he's leaving. And hope he doesn't Floo to Buckingham.
Hm.

This is where I wish we'd got control of the Floo system. Would be nice to be able to take him offline.

I wonder... there could be a way to sabotage his fire. But it'd be bad to fall out onto his hearth by accident. Or, y'know, blow up the chimney and blow myself to bits in the process. So maybe not. Putting that on my list of things to get the twins to look into, though.

Also likely not a good move with someone who specialises in defusing Muggle incendiaries.

I say, if you'd rather kip a while, we probably won't miss anything. Or I can take first watch, what.

Maybe in a bit. Not sure I could sleep if I tried yet.

I'd rather watch until we can be more sure he's really in for the night. I don't want to get played and him walk out under our noses.

I know what you mean. I have trouble without Hydra. Or Jack, what, but cats don't tend to behave well on stakeouts.

Was it...odd, Draco's party, and trying to talk to people who haven't--who don't understand? I mean to say, everyone's been
affected, no one's entirely untouched by what happened. But some of us.... It's just there are those for whom the battle for Hogwarts was more or less their first direct experience of fighting back. Fighting for anything, really.

It felt hollow to make small talk, on some levels. Was it that way for you?

@alt_ron at 2015-06-10 04:17:34
(no subject)

Yeah.

I think people probably thought I was rather rude, but, really, there's just not much to say, y'know? 'Tried the punch?' 'Music's not half brilliant, yeah?' 'Nice run of sunny days, we've been having, wot?'

And the lot of them wanting to say something, I dunno, meaningful about Harry not being there, or about Neville being so brave when no one really knew he had it in him, or going all wet about the ones that died in the school or about the firsties that didn't die because Moon courageously ran away and hid them all.

I just- you're right. What do you even say to those people?

@alt_justin at 2015-06-10 04:29:06
(no subject)

'You're welcome'?

No.

And it's not that we're the only ones who can be heroic (though--I say, you're too right about Moon. And Professor Sinistra, as well).

On the one hand I'm shattered about some of the losses. I don't know if I told you but I wrote to Zach Smith's parents. That was dashed unfortunate. And the thought of Harry is both devastating and infuriating, what.

But at the same time, on the other hand--my God, it's not even
mildly surprising that so many of them died. Which is a well monstrous thought.

Is it because we're just fatigued? Or is it because of their influence? Desai and--and Antonin. Others. Do you think we'll ever feel properly about things?

Do you think we'll go on long enough to feel the right sort of feelings again?

I don't really expect to.

Or-

I'm not trying to be grim, y'know. Only, I sort of don't want to be caught by surprise if I take a killing curse. So many of the little ones just looked so surprised. After. I think it's better to know it's likely to come to that.

Sorry.

You know, in some ways, it's more unbelievable that Smith's gone than that Harry is?

I mean, part of me still doesn't believe Harry can really be gone. I keep expecting he'll write- or just walk in- and say Cheers, y'know?

But Smith? I can't make my head know that. I mean, how'd he even get in the path of a curse?

Of course, one considers that there's a risk, but I rather think we've more to live for, yet.

Smith thought he knew more than he did about this sort of fight. He didn't know any better.
At least Moon had the sense to get himself (and others) out of the line of fire.

Anyway. Get some sleep.

@alt_justin at 2015-06-10 04:31:30
(no subject)

Mind you, one can't go wrong with, 'Doesn't my wife look beautiful tonight?'

@alt_ron at 2015-06-10 04:43:51
(no subject)

Well, there IS that.

Not that it helps especially to think of that when they're snug in the castle, and we're stuck here with our warming charms and a bottle of water to get us through the night.

You warm enough down there?

@alt_justin at 2015-06-10 04:45:34
(no subject)

Why, do you want me to come up and snuggle? Wouldn't be the same.

Yes, I'm warm enough. Would you prefer to switch places?

@alt_ron at 2015-06-10 04:48:02
(no subject)

Nice of you to offer, mate, but I wouldn't want to get distracted and miss our man, y'know?

Nah. I'm fine. No worries.
So.

D'you know what sound a nut makes when it sneezes?

Cashew?

What do you call a manticore with no eyes?

Blind?

Why was six afraid of seven?

Nah. A 'MANTCORE'.

Because 7 ate 9! (I thought that one was hilarious when I was 7 and Gin was 6.)

D'you know why they had to close the village school at the London Zoo?
No, because seven is a six offender!
Because the monkeys wouldn't sit still during lessons? No idea.

Why did the chicken go toward the light?

Ew. Never heard it that way!
Too many cheetas!

It was afraid of the dark?

To get to the other side, of course.

What d'you call a fish with two legs?

A two-knee fish.
Yeah.
That one's a Pansy special.

Ha, 'Pansy' was my first thought!

And all the lights appear to be out now.

All right, then.
Flip a coin for watch?

Go on and sleep. I'll send you a wake-up call in three hours.
-J

Cheers.
I've got the notificio set.
Alice, you'll want to send someone out to the gates in a few minutes. Healer Repton Chandless and his family (his wife, Meliflua, and 2 young children plus his mother-in-law and her mother) will arrive as soon as they've collected their belongings.

Meliflua sings with the opera company in New London. Her mother is, I believe, a painter or perhaps it's weaving she does, I'm not certain. The great-grandmother was a curse-breaker for Gringotts in her day, though I gather she gave it up quite some years ago. (Perhaps when she married the second time.)

Healer Knox declined to join us and had to be Obliviated, as did Healer Behm, I regret to say.

We're headed for Derbyshire now to pay a call on Tempus and Delilah Grandin; I expect he's on-shift this morning, but if she's persuadable, we'll ask her to call him home. I believe they've got small children, as well. Wish me luck. I don't have the history there that I do with some others, but he came to Hogwarts once for one of Aurora's YPL programmes, and he was both solid in his craft and a clear, patient instructor with the students. He would be an asset were we to bring him over, and he's certainly on the list of people who might come under suspicion for having been connected in that way with known Order members.

Auror Harkiss, Enforcers Jordan, Cooke and Brindl came with me, but I've left Cooke and Brindl with Melchior Culpeper to make rounds of people M thought he might be able to talk over to our side.

I'm determined to wring whatever advantage I can from the Nesbitts' tragedy.
The Chandless family has arrived safe and sound. Thank you, Poppy.

I am so incredibly sorry that there is a tragedy to take advantage of in the first place.

It took time with the Grandins, but they are preparing to head your way, as well, now. And they're bringing their next neighbours, Halfa and Mort Jorgensen. There are seven small children, two grown children, three older folks, and an assortment of familiars in the party in addition to Tempus, Delilah, and the Jorgensens.

We've just arrived in Horncastle for a visit to the Oxley family. Healer Frances Oxley was forced into retirement a little over a year ago, possibly because she got crosswise with MLE over the Vale of Health: her specialty is hex injuries. I think she might be made to see that her position is tenuous in light of what happened Monday, and she has a family to think of, just as Effie Nesbitt did.

Well, that was unexpected. There was no sign of the Oxleys at Fairweather House in Horncastle, and when Harkiss and Jordan took a closer look, there were indications of a hasty departure and some puzzlement over whether there might have been a scuffle, whether the scene suggested an arrest. Apparently they didn't take much with them: clothing still in wardrobes, cupboards and drawers. Food on the shelves.

But then we found a note on the mantel. Addressed to Bellatrix Lestrange and Thorfinn Rowle, telling them what they might do with their 'new regime'.
We take it they're in hiding. The shame is that means they're beyond our help as much as they may also be beyond Rowle and Lestrangle's reach.

On our way again. To Nether Padley in the Peak district, to see if we've better luck looking for Healer Avitus Maginn.

You might send the Oxleys an owl in a few days to see if we can't establish some form of communication, and if they'd rather stay on their own for the time being.

That's an excellent thought, Alice. Absolutely.

Alright. Things went more straightforwardly with Maginn, but then he's a single wizard and that simplifies matters.

He's agreed to come to the school by supper tonight. I'm afraid the delay makes things awkward for our arrivals staff, but he was determined not to be rushed into an abrupt departure. (Do be sure he receives adequate scrutiny when he arrives re. treachery or hidden motivations. I don't suspect him of any ill-intent, but I won't be able to vouch for his whereabouts over the next several hours, either.)

If you see Aurora, tell her we're on our way now to see her cousin Melantha at Oakham in Rutland. While I've not met her more than twice or thrice in bureaucratic settings at St M's, I'm carrying a letter Aurora wrote last night, and I've every hope that we'll persuade her to come over to us.
We might see if Iain Macmillan would be willing to extend messages to his contacts as well -- they'd be a little further flung than our immediate circle, which could potentially be useful as long as we're careful.

Ah.

Yes, perhaps you're right. His connections are in the camps as well as at St M's?

Yes.

I anticipate we'd have a wider range of responses, but it'd be a good faith gesture.
We're making good progress. I think we may have 200 doses ready by the end of the week, at our current pace.

The good news is that the sample batch I made using the powdered dragon scales is comparable in every way to the third version of concentrate, using about half the amount of powdered Malaclaw claws for the same yield. And since currently we have more dragon scales than we quite know what to do with, I think we'll be well-served to substitute them for the time being. It's lucky they're all the same breed; I'm not sure how much variation there might be in the properties of a different species.

Those of you assisting us in preparing ingredients, I've been observing your techniques for the last few days and I'm making some changes to capitalise on your strengths:

Divyesh, please work with Emrys Clark for now. I'd like you to concentrate on the preparation of the sliced roots and greens. Remember, the consistency of your slices gives us the best results. Particularly for the guarana roots, we want the slices as close to 1/32\textsuperscript{nd}-inch as possible, and absolutely nothing over 1/16\textsuperscript{th}. I've left samples of each type spell-o-taped to the cutting boards. Emrys, I know your potions kit has a silver knife but we've found the best results are achieved with steel or ceramic blades. Mrs Scrim can help you if you need a different set.

Nick and Zach Scrim, you two are strong enough to powder the scales to a good, fine grit. We need every last ounce of scales from the materials we recovered from Snowdonia, so be sure to give the mortars a good swipe with \textit{pertergicus} so there's no waste.

Ian and Katherine: Please focus your effort on all other animal components--the livers and spleens really must be fully soaked in tepid water, not cold, not hot, before they're harvested for any remaining blood--oh, and I think you'd better rewarm and liquefy the coagulated blood that Charlie, Sally-Anne and I recovered, as well, before we use it--and the beetle eyes need to be checked carefully for any clouding or they'll taint the whole batch.
Arista and Katrina--I mean, Fitz--that leaves you two with all the other vegetation to prepare. If you have any questions about the hellebore, or you want additional help with the parsley or anything, let me know. There are other people who can help, you don't have to shred it all yourselves.

For the rest of you, I've got notes for the modification to the master potion formula based on the use of the Welsh green scale powder instead of the Malaclaw; I'll make sure everyone who's brewing has a fresh copy tomorrow.

Oh, and I also need two more volunteers (in addition to our current group) who are willing to shift away from Sleeper potion for a few days to concentrate on replenishing our other stores, especially Polyjuice. (I harvested a whole flat of fluxweed at the last full moon.) Madam P, are any of your Healers ready to help with some of the basic potions we need?

For now, I want everyone to take the rest of the afternoon off. Get some sunshine or go for a flight. We'll start fresh tomorrow.

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@alt_poppy at 2015-06-10 23:05:59
(no subject)

My dear, I apologise that I've had so little time to lend assistance with the brewing, but I have made arrangements to provide you with another senior master today, and I believe that by tomorrow or Friday at the latest he'll have joined us at the castle.

His name is Melchior Culpeper, and he was my own mentor in the Healing programme when I trained (before the dawn of time, that was). Melchior's specialty is herbal medicinals. He keeps a shop in Dover and has long been a purveyor of bespoke brews.

He's not given up his shop and his independence willingly, but he does now see that the crux has come and that our need for him trumps his own preference.

I don't believe you'll find him overly difficult to incorporate in your working group, but do be aware that he's enjoyed solo practice for quite a long time.
alt_hermione at 2015-06-11 00:47:37
(no subject)

Oh, excellent. Does he know how to brew Wolfsbane?

If not, then I wonder if he'd prefer to take over some of the routine potions (with an assistant) so we can stay more focused on the antidote?

alt_poppy at 2015-06-11 00:58:36
(no subject)

I expect Melchior would be delighted to be asked to take up the Wolfsbane production. And I rather suspect he'll have ideas about tailoring the formula for particular moons or patients.

That would be brilliant, actually, because if anything will catch his fancy and ease his sense of loss, this might be just the thing.

As for others, I would suggest that you ask Gannett Frith, Sophia Page, and Peter Wentworth. Frith is an infectious disease specialist, but that means he's always experimenting and brewing, so he'll be a deft hand at whatever you need while we--Paracelsus, guard us--have no present need to fight nasty contagions. Page and Wentworth are generalists and good workers. I feel certain they'll be willing to help in whatever way you require.
Melantha and her family are on their way to the castle. Enforcer Nuntius Jordan will be with them, assisting with their baggage. It's difficult managing everything when there's a baby involved.

If you're there and available, I feel certain it would reassure her to see you at the gates before we ask that they submit to veritaserum questioning or Hydra's legilimency.

Mum actually stopped by half an hour ago, she was here seeing to some food things. She'll come down too.

I'm glad Mel decided. She was - at the family funerals, she didn't want to give up her patients, and I understand that, but if it's that or horrible things, well. She's not stupid, Mel.

Someone else for your list. I don't think he's urgent, but he'd be right useful, and he's got young kids. Darius Deverill. Number of other Healers in the family, picked up a little bit of lots of things. His kids must be six and eight now, something like that, and I think his wife does something apothecaryish?

(I know his brother better, he's an astronomer, and has been helping with some of the data gathering we're doing from a distance, but I know Cantus is worried about anyone in New London these days.)

Good thought about Deverill.

I'll add them to my list for tomorrow.

It will be late before I return tonight, but it would be very useful to
know from those who arrived today (a) if they've thought of anyone else we ought to approach, and (b) if they could shed any light on the shifts I ought to work tomorrow's list around. Do you suppose you could have a word with some of them?

Perhaps ask Haruman Patil, as well, if any of the younger Healers--near him in age--ought to be approached?

**Carry-over list:**

* Panacea Welfleet
* Avicenna Crisp
* Jasper Greene
* Vivianne Hayden
* Myrtle Morden
* Delilah Mytens (unless you've a reason I oughtn't contact her)
* Able Bellweather (he's been in administration for years, but he's still got a heart for Healing, and surely we could use him some way or other)
* Deverill

Also. Could you ask Melantha what she thinks our chances would be if I were to pay a call on her head of department, Jalen Allthorpe? If she advises against, I won't go. Otherwise, I'm thinking it might be worth the chance taken.

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-11 01:28:20
(no subject)

I'll ask. Stumped entirely on the current round of wards theory, and I want to clear my head, so I might as well be doing something useful while the gears are going.

Wait. Gears.

Jack Chadwick. My friend Gilly's brother, trained around the same time as Haruman. Halfblood, like her, so he got shunted into all the work no one else wanted, but he's real bright, a creative sort when it comes to problem solving.

I don't know if you'll get him without her and her father, and you
won't get Gilly without her partner, Juniper. Her - Juni's - parents are quite frail and under regular Healer care, I know that, but I think we've space and enough people to manage now, maybe? Or somewhere in one of the Fidelius, at least?

Delilah - tell her that Campanella's come over, did so real fast. And see if she's got a way to get hold of Sigrun Hall, privately. Sigrun'd be a help for Bill and Sirius's news people, she's been at the Prophet for ages, mostly editing, but other things when they let her.

Able Bellweather. The party, at Spence, it seems like decades ago, I remember him talking about wishing he could do more of direct help. That he missed seeing things get better, under his wand and hands.

I'll go see about Haruman, if there's anyone else he'd suggest. And see if Mel's sorted enough she can talk for a minute.

alt_poppy at 2015-06-11 02:00:24
(no subject)

Thank you.

Yes, this is most helpful.

Have your gears begun turning more productively with a bit of a break?

alt_sinistra at 2015-06-11 02:22:21
(no subject)

Haruman suggests Phyllis Burrow, if she's not already on your list. Same training class as him and Jack.

He's more sure of her than of Colin O'Flaherty, also in that class. Irish, pureblood, but Haruman isn't about his loyalties.

(We do think we maybe have a solution to the Ireland wards, if you think that would help. No certainties, but we're an awful lot more interested in opening things up than the other side are. Not that that's a high bar. Sorry, you don't need me wit-
wandering.)

He also says not to try Auldren Munroe. Entirely bought in to the wrong sort, he thought.

Mel says that she thinks Allthorpe will want to stay with his research, but if you give him a chance to pull his records and notes, he might come. (He keeps all sorts of odd hours, so no one will think too much if he goes in at midnight or dawn or something.)

You might need to convince him to charge in the right direction, but she says to remind him of a conversation she had with him a couple of months ago about the theory of disease, something from the 15th century. (She gave me the name, it fell out of my head, she says the century should do.)

As to the wards, well, the reason the name keeps falling out of my head is that yes, I've a new line of thought. Maybe. Let me know if you need me to wander the castle again, right?

Very helpful. All of that.

Perhaps I'll pay a call on Allthorpe tonight, then--my last stop of the evening.

You've been most helpful, my dear.

I'll pop by when I return and perhaps you'll have a great breakthrough to report! (And also because it's not bad practice to have someone know I've made it back--or not.)

You know me, I'll be up until near dawn. (Likely in the workroom, or maybe looking at stars for a bit if I get stuck again.)

It - yeah. Good to do something solidly helpful. I've been stuck in the 'this might be helpful if we ever get half of it sorted out'
loop for too long, I think.

And do let me know if you get Gilly to come in. I hope you do.
D'you know, a few years back, I was one of those unlucky sods who got struck with a nasty case of the plague?

It's probably more accurate to call it 'Rookwood's Paralysis' instead of 'Black's Paralysis' -- the Department of Mysteries had their signatures all over that particular mess -- oh, don't even get me started, it's all quite the rabbit hole, believe me, but anyways, a couple of years back, I found myself very ill, and in an extended stay at St M's.

There are bits I don't clearly remember, of course. Great huge lengths of time that are just simply missing because I was too out of it. But whatever memories I do have make it clear that the Healers of St Mungo's were there with me every step of the way. Making me as comfortable as possible. Working round the clock to come up on something, anything that'd help me feel better. Keeping me fed and bathed. Pushing me to keep my muscles active, to walk and hold a quill again, and cheering me with every milestone I passed.

I imagine they must've been worried about catching it themselves, and I wasn't anyone special by any stretch -- a halfblooded bog cleaner isn't someone you normally go out of your way for. But that's the thing about Healers. At least the ones I know, and I have the great privilege to call a few of them friends. Healers don't give a damn what you do for a living. They work as hard as they can to help as many people as they can, and there's something deeply admirable about that.

Helping people because they're people who need help. Full stop. It's simple, but so very profound all at the same time.

I owe my life to the Healers at St Mungo's. So many of us do.
Rachel,

Ian Boyde is, as we speak, under guard at the safehouse in Hogsmeade.

We highly recommend you have Hydra present for any questioning, what. He tried at first to sound as if he was all in favour of coming with us and joining the Order. Turns out he thought we were schoolboys he could swindle.

I say, he'll eventually need his hand reattached.

-Justin

---

@alt_ron at 2015-06-11 02:27:37
(no subject)

Yeah. Doubt he'll let you miss that he wants it back! (Apparently it hurts quite a lot.)

@alt_justin at 2015-06-11 02:30:14
(no subject)

Ron,

I say, it's a shame he lied, what. Jolly unfortunate.

-J

@alt_ron at 2015-06-11 02:36:00
(no subject)

Pity he was such an eejit about it, thinking he could play us like that.
Indeed. After all, we're just teenage boys. What could we possibly know?

I wonder if we should offer to notify his lady friend? Or if we should remind him that we got a good look at her this morning.

But perhaps that's unnecessary, what.
Listen, both of you. I've been taking meetings with Gabri and Nicola Burdett-Coutts, who are working their best magic to produce a series of entertainments for us. A proper bit of bread and circuses to defuse the tension everyone's been under.

They've got half a dozen things lined up, so now we need to work out publicity and tie-ins and strategies for making the most of these events for our purposes.

Could you make a meeting Friday afternoon if I set one up? P: you're needed to work the press, obviously, and to help shape the message. S: we'll want your contacts with artists of all stripes and with organisations/institutions and the deep pockets. Well, I can cover some of those, too, obviously, but I definitely need you in on this.

Certainly.

What are the top two ideas so far?

Well the first two are a Midsummer's Eve in Highgate cemetery and a Moorish festival a fortnight after that.

Did you go to the fête they threw at Highgate several years ago? It was brilliant. And such a great venue for bringing in lots of bands because there are open spaces and cloisters and separate aisles and intimate, private nooks in a mausoleum or a chapel or hedged garden. It's a city of ghosts, too, which makes everything feel that much more exotic.

And then, 4-5 July, is the Reconquista fête where they'll transform
Marylebone into Granada with a facsimile of the Alhambra charmed in Portman Square, surrounded by a Moorish street market filled with all sorts of entertainments and distractions.

They've got major plans taking shape for the end of July, of course, but there's another smaller fête in between and two more in August.

We took in some of the Highgate evening.

First thought, in all honesty, was that the late Mrs Crouch used a similar theme for her one and only occasion as hostess of Marlborough. But that will only occur to a handful of people, or possibly just me.

I don't think there will be any of the preciousness of the decorations that marked that Marlborough party--that was midsummer in 'theme' only. This will be a proper celebration of the solstice itself.

Well, that's a relief.

The greatest challenge for all these events will be food, given the shortage of imported ingredients.

They plan to make the most of a bad situation, however, by reviving the Freshers' Feasts and touting how everything will have been locally or regionally sourced--the
salmon from Scotland, lamb from the Dales, all the veg as fresh as if you'd picked it yourself from your own kitchen garden.

alt_lana at 2015-06-11 14:47:00
(no subject)

Quite right, S.

Here's the complete list, so you can work with B-C on signing the right bands Consorts/dancers/charm weavers/illusion spinners/painters/picture makers/poets/dramatists/acting troupes/vocalists/buskers/pleasure forgers/folly crafters/games operators/gallery owners/arts foundations/the usual private sponsors/etc.

Also want you to tap 4 or 5 significant talents to join you on a vetting commission for the juried show in early August.

21 June: Midsummer at Highgate. (They've got Radclyffe Hall and Lizzie Siddal hostessing for the ghosts.)
4-5 July: Moorish Market in Marylebone. (Believe one of the objects is to show off the new signage at the Heritage Collection without making actual announcement of the renaming.)
18-19 July: Little Venice festival. (Canal boats and footpaths. Music, cafés, plein-air artists, masquerade/fancy dress soirée, artisan market. The usual. Also, perhaps, some tie-in with the zoo.)
30 July-1 August: SummerFest. Southbank. County Hall to Lambeth. (NOT Buckingham.) This is the largest event, obviously. Want to kick off your juried art show here. Could let it run for the fortnight between this and the next. Up to you and the venues.
15-16 August: Secret London. This one's to be a cluster of small-venue events--some ticketed and exclusive; others that will be 'surprise' appearances of major names in tiny neighbourhood venues. Disused tunnels and old tube platforms. 'Mushroom' cafés, theatres, and galleries that appear overnight and then vanish after a day or evening. Garden parties in squares that are never open. A chance to observe the beefeater ghosts changing the guard at the Tower. A midnight ceillidh in Kensington gardens. Morris dancing that breaks out in odd spots--Westminster bridge, Pall-Mall, the Embankment, Fleet Street, Ludgate hill.
29-30 August: Sum-Mer at the Serpentine. (Hyde Park)--water sports, Merfolk displaying their talents (NB-C has some connection with them?), picnics, pavilions, strolling entertainments, bandstands, the usual.
2015-06-11 09:59:00
Private Message to A Dolohov

Batya.

Not sure what your tasks are today, but have just seized a property that will interest you. Floo: Crosby Hall, Chelsea.

Had no idea Moran was a collector. (Has risen considerably in estimation as a person of interest this morning. Sure he's less keen on that score than we.)

Books. A wing full of them. Bring containment cases. You're welcome to all you want.

Imagine the search will demand at least a day. Suggest we summon the elves to cook for us here: his larder's rich in things that've gone short elsewhere. We could make an evening of it. You owe me a rematch at gobstones, anyway, and that would be more entertaining on his terrace, watching the boat races on the river.

---

alt_antonin at 2015-06-11 15:38:10
(no subject)

Moran's estate had something worth looking at? That's a surprise, honestly, but I've never known you to be wrong at an assessment. Will be there in a moment, as soon as I finish up here.

And you are welcome to the rematch, although your perpetual insistence that you have a chance at winning will never fail to be amusing!

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-11 15:42:41
(no subject)

Your win last time was purely luck.

I was distracted by that business with Rowle.
You may continue to think that, of course. Far be it from a father to discourage a healthy self-image in his son. That having been said, darling, what's your excuse for the four losses that happened before that?

Do we think Moran will ever see the light of day again -- in which case I will restrict my avarice somewhat -- or do we have free rein? Oh, what the hell, I'll simply bring all the cases I have free.

And making an evening of it sounds lovely (and sorely needed). I'll have Berry collect a bottle of wine from the cellars and set herself to inspecting the larder. She's been quite out of sorts about the shortages; she'll be beside herself at the chance to feed us a proper meal.

Moran's prospects depend entirely on what he's able to offer us and how deeply enmeshed he's been with certain contrary interests.

If he wins a reprieve, he'll be pleased to understand the plunder of Crosby as a contribution to the cause. A loyalty tax, as it were. (His liquid assets have already been transferred.)

You know perfectly well the tally charm was faulty. We agreed those scores were void, Batya. Or is your memory slipping?

That we agreed those matches do not count to our running total does not change the fact you lost them fair and square!

Oh, well, perhaps you'll get lucky. I wouldn't want to discourage you from making the attempt; ambition is to be rewarded, after
all.

Understood, about Moran. And I'm certain we can put his assets to better use, either way. Particularly those assets in his larder. (I haven't eaten lunch yet; have you? A fortifying meal before taking inventory sounds just the thing.)

👤 **alt_crouch_jr** at 2015-06-11 16:17:11  
(no subject)

Keep telling yourself so, old man.

Lunch, however, is an excellent suggestion.

👤 **alt_antonin** at 2015-06-11 16:21:31  
(no subject)

And I have finished up here, and will be collecting the cases and arriving shortly.
I've been exchanging private messages in the journals with Percy's ex-girlfriend, Penelope Clearwater. She claims to be horrified with the stories in the *Prophet* about the Order murdering civilians, and isn't sure what to think. She's openly admitted that she's been charged to glean whatever information from us that she can, and so I'm not sure whether her professions of horror are a calculated attempt to make me blurt out something that her 'friends' can use against us. So I'm being cautious in my replies to her. At any rate, I wanted to pass along what she has reported about conditions in New London:

*There were a tonne of shortages. Queues for hours, and when you got to the front, they'd be charging ridiculous prices for the handful of things they had left, and you'd be grateful to get them. And hardly anyone has a steady paycheck, so I've seen people trying to exchange silverware for food. I was honestly worried about starving, and when Karo brought me in, it was such a relief at first, because they had a steady supply of things.*

*At least the streets were safe at night, and they had the good sense to lift the restrictions for halfbloods. Even though there isn't any crime to speak of, or restrictions, most people still stay inside most nights because they're so frightened.*

I'm trying to make her see reason, but really, it's very uphill work. She did mention other issues that are supposedly raising doubts in her mind, and so I also wanted to pass those along, as the fears underlying these should be certainly be addressed by our own news outlets.

- Apparently, the Protectorate's party line is stressing the violence associated with the uprisings in the camps ("anarchy and brutality"), and in Ireland.
- There are reports of people missing from their homes
- We are, of course, being blamed for the 'tragedy at Hogwarts,' but I'm unclear exactly how that's being pinned on us
- Draco, I'm sorry, but the damage that's already been done to your reputation is lending credence to the lies the *Prophet* has published: 'I knew Draco was dangerous, he'd killed before, after all, but this just seemed beyond the pale...'
• She also speaks of 'a world descending into chaos' and 'the violence caused by the Order.' I would judge from this that a longing for security and order is one of the themes that's being heavily stressed.

This is useful, Mum. Thanks.

(To have the old Protectorate's atrocities attributed to us...it's completely understandable why they're doing this.

But it's also bloody annoying.)
Greetings, British Citizens of Albion, and others!

Over the last four weeks, every person in this country has experienced great change. Most of us are still mourning losses - of material things, homes, possessions, jobs or livelihoods, of friends and loved ones, sisters, brothers, parents, daughters and sons. It's no surprise that many of you are clinging to the system and leaders you know, or you think you know, rather than take a chance on something new.

There are some things that haven't changed, however. The Ministry and the Council who brought about and supported Voldemort's tyranny lied to you when he was alive, and they are still lying to you now. If you think you'll be safe from oppression under their rule, you are mistaken. If you've heard reports of atrocities committed by Albion's Aurors or members of the Order of the Phoenix, such as the murder of families who declined to join us, they are untrue.

Some of the people we are attempting to capture are guilty of heinous crimes. They will be held accountable. If they turn themselves in, they will be given a fair trial and treated humanely while in our custody. If they give us no choice, we will kill them fairly in combat, but we will make the attempt to bring them in peaceably unless there is no alternative.

As for specific questions about me or about the Provisional Government of Albion, the Order of the Phoenix, or any topic related to the difference between our policies and those of the Death Eaters, I hereby invite them. When I began my essays, seven years ago, people used to write to me with questions they had about the Protectorate. Oh, there was a fair amount of hateful commentary, as well, but there never failed to be one or two with earnest queries. As well as some who simply had stories of their own that they wanted heard.

Well, today, I am opening the floodgates. Ask me anything. I reserve the right to tell you that I can't answer your question for the security of our ongoing conflict with the remnants of the Protectorate, but if I can, I'll provide as honest a reply as possible.
Let's start off with something simple. These are sure to be questions many of you have, so I'll just get them out of the way:

- Are you a traitor, Sirius Black?
  No, but that depends on how you look at it. Am I a traitor to the Protectorate? The Protectorate was never my government. I was never on Voldemort's side and never will be. I was loyal to Britain and I am still loyal to the Provisional Government of Albion, and the Order of the Phoenix.

- But are you a murderer?
  No. I've had to kill enemies in the heat of battle, in self-defence. I've been responsible for the deaths of others. In some cases, that's because the Order decided they needed to be executed after being found guilty of terrible crimes, including murder. Other times I've been unable to keep people from being killed. People who ought to have lived. I carry those failures, and will regret their loss, always. But no, I'm not a murderer.

I certainly wouldn't kill an entire family just because they decide not to side with Albion (though we have reason to believe they were contemplating joining us, and that's why the Council had them killed).

What else do you want to know? Public, private - ask your questions, and I'll tell only Grim Truths.

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**alt_sirius** at **2015-06-12 14:33:09**

*Private Message to Remus, Alice, Radhika and Ellen*

Well, there goes nothing. Radhika, Ellen, I hope this works.

**alt_wagstaff** at **2015-06-12 16:32:31**

*(no subject)*

Aright, mate. I'll take yer bait.

D'yeah really expect us average folk to believe you? First you come after us with Inferi, killin people all over the Midlands and Cumbria. Then you slaughter every man, woman and child within two miles of Dover so you could take the port and tunnel. Then you attack the school and kill our kids, and from what I hear, you let yer werewolves loose on them.
But, listen. If yer plan is frightening and starving us til we obey you, you'll need to have another think.

Who're you plannin to kill next? Pardon. **Execute**.

---

@alt_sirius at **2015-06-12 17:31:24**
(no subject)

Well, first, let's get the facts straight, before we go on. My name is Sirius Black, not Barty Crouch. The tactics you're ascribing to me and mine are more suited to his sort, Death Eaters and other contemptible types who insinuated themselves into a corrupt Ministry and a particularly cruel Department of MLE. The Inferi, the werewolves - these were Protectorate's forces, not the Order's. We killed no one at Dover. And the attack on Hogwarts was to save the students, whom Voldemort ordered killed. Devastating as the losses were, if we hadn't acted, the casualties could have been much worse.

For those who are starving, we have supply lines that are available to those in need. Unfortunately, we currently can't deliver to New London or several other regions of the country. Our intelligence indicates that most people have the necessities, though, and it's only a few luxury items which have to be imported that they lack.

As to executions, I'm not in charge of those decisions. Probably a good thing no one person gets to decide that. I don't believe we 'plan' to execute anyone. That's not to say that there aren't people who have made it clear we'll need to stop them, one way or another, before we can call Albion victorious.

I can tell you that our Most Wanted list includes Bellatrix Lestrange, Barty Crouch, Antonin Dolohov, Thorfinn Rowle, Ptolemy Baddock, Ari Baddock, Nicholas Broome, Virgil Crispin, Rodolphus Lestrange, Cadmus Mulciber - you know, the lot of the Death Eaters and many of the senior members of the current Protectorate Ministry. As I said, if they turn themselves over peacefully, we will subject them to a fair tribunal and they'll be given an opportunity to speak in their defence with the benefit of counsel. It would be naïve to think most of them will surrender, however. In fact, some of them have sworn they never will.
Why should you believe me? Perhaps you're lucky enough to never have had any sort of contact with MLE, a Death Eater, or any of the works they have perpetrated over the last fifteen years. Go to any of my Grim Truths and pick out a claim I made in them - the Frost Faire, or Rookwood's Paralysis, just to name two examples - and look at what's come to light since I wrote them. Ask yourselves if the story MLE told you was more believable, or the truth that I told. Then decide who you believe.

alt_wagstaff at 2015-06-12 18:18:46
(no subject)

Hard to tell who to believe, then. You say believe us. They say yer traitors.

So you've not got werewolves? I've heard you do.

And that's an interesting list you wrote. Did you forget Councilwizard Malfoy or are you putting him on trial? Heard you took him out of Azkaban. Couldn't help noticing he's been writing in his journal again lately, so that leaves me wondering.

alt_sirius at 2015-06-12 18:25:47
(no subject)

There are werewolves who are members of our faction, or allied to us. We don't 'set them loose' on anyone, though. Our werewolf citizens don't go about trying to bite people even when they're not transformed, either. Using them as weapons is not a method we employ.

I'm not at liberty to speak to Lucius Malfoy's current situation. Consider though, that he was imprisoned in Azkaban by Voldemort himself, and his son is a member of the Order of the Phoenix in high standing.

alt_wagstaff at 2015-06-12 18:35:25
(no subject)

So yer sayin Malfoy's one of you, then?

Interesting, that.
No, that's not what I'm saying.

Lucius Malfoy willingly and knowingly contributed to the success of the Death Eaters, committed numbers of atrocities in the name of Voldemort, and is the sort of pureblood we can do without.

I don't want anyone to think that acts he might have performed in the service of the Protectorate had anything to do with the Order.

However, I can't comment on his current status. What I can tell you is that if Voldemort treated one of his most trusted advisers and servants by throwing him into Azkaban, think about what that says for everyone else who still thinks the Protectorate is the right path.

It's funny to think back to the days when I started writing you, and how far things have come since then. Just asking too many questions was such a dangerous thing -- and writing someone like you directly was unheard of unless you wanted to get into trouble. Let alone disagreeing with anyone in charge. It was almost like a form of madness, really, having people tell me things were so very different from reality all the time.

The funny thing about questions is they don't go away if you aren't allowed to ask them.

And the funny thing about memories is that they exist even if people try very hard to insist things happened differently. Anyone who wants to take a look at mine can feel free. We do have a Pensieve after all.

And I remember quite a lot.

For the record, just in case anyone's curious, Sirius Black has always told me the truth.
alt_sirius at 2015-06-13 04:02:26
(no subject)
It's been a long, strange trip and no mistake.

alt_pansy at 2015-06-13 04:21:21
(no subject)
That is a rather massive understatement.
Hey.

Got your last.

I think

Well

It's hard to describe what it's been like here.

There's no end of things to do, seems like. And tonnes of people who stuck around. I mean, I'm not the only one. Others've shown up for the youth programme thing too. And it hasn't been easy, but it wasn't what I thought it would be.

Sort of the story of my life, right?

I've sort of given up on being surprised about things. Like how Granger's in charge of all the potions, and there are Muggles here at Hogwarts working on the government stuff, like, planning what it's going to be like, and there are all these kids who went to a secret school run by the Longbottoms, and that I now know how Sirius Black takes his breakfast in the morning, and every now and then I'll hear conversations where people will be absolutely dead serious about how to extend diplomatic relations to merpeople, and it's mad sometimes, but it actually makes sense for the most part. Because Granger's actually really brill at Potions, I heard Slughorn talking about how she's an utter prodigy or something (he's here, by the way), and I guess once you wrap your brain around stuff like that, the rest sort of falls into place.

Anyways.

I think you should come up. Lend a hand with the potions stuff. Yeah, I know, but I think it'd help some. With how you've been doing lately. And there's people from your class here, too.

I'm sorry I haven't been back home.

And yeah. I've had trouble sleeping too.
At least when I'm awake, I feel less useless than I did a few weeks back, though.

Come up, Pip. We could use a hand.
Got something good for you.

It took me a long time to follow the trail on this one, because nearly everyone is in the dark. But there are rumours and talk aplenty, and once I separated the fact from the fiction, a narrative started to emerge.

Lady Lestrange's son, Rigel--there's been rumors about him for years, that he has some kind of unusual powers.

You've heard them, perhaps?

I'd always heard it was a preternatural *Imperius* of some kind, and that it was the result of Lady Lestrange having drank gallons of unicorn blood whilst she was pregnant.

Anyway, I don't think it's exactly the same as Imperius, but is something similar. Lady Lestrange apparently goes out of her way to keep him quite content and happy because it makes him all the more willing to play "the game" with her. Which is basically her guiding him into manipulating people like puppets. He's only six or seven, so of course it'd all be a game to him, yeah?

I've got it on good authority that she brought that Nesbitt chap in for a meeting with herself and Rigel before he went on the WWN and fingered Black and Malfoy as the ones who killed his family.

Whatever she did to Nesbitt was more than mere Imperius or intimidation. I saw him talking to his mate in the square about what he saw and he was telling the truth. The truth as he knew it, anyway.

---

That is excellent information. Thank you.
You're welcome.

Boyde's gone. Your doing?

Yes. Any concerns there you'd like to share?

Concerns, yes, but none that I'd like to share.

We took him alive, if that reassures you at all.

I don't give a fuck or a shag about Boyde.

But one day, it could be someone I do give something for, that's all.

But since that includes only one...no, two people--well, chances are low. For now.
Your brother is one, I assume? We've got no particular reason to go after your brother, and I'm happy to instruct my people to restrict themselves to non-lethal spells if they find themselves in a fight with him.

Who's the other?

Freddie is one, yes.

The other...I'm really not sure if it would be a good idea to tell you. It could complicate things.

I think we could protect Sarah, if it's Sarah. I'm less certain about Ptolemy, if that's who you want to keep safe. The better someone is with a wand, the harder it is to take them alive.

It's surely not Antonin Dol

Look, there's no guarantees, regardless. We do try to take care of our people and those they love, even when they're not terribly savory individuals, but we don't always succeed -- we weren't able to keep Lucius Malfoy out of Azkaban, last summer, for example, though at least Voldemort didn't kill him outright, and we got him out later.

It's entirely up to you whether you tell me. But if you don't tell me, I won't know who it is you want me to protect.

I don't think you lose anything telling me. Unless you think I'd
try to use that person against you. Are you worried I'd do that?

Sarah and Ptolemy can take care of themselves. Unless, of course, they can't. The person I'm speaking of is pretty much wholly alone, and I'm fairly certain he's deeply loathed by a few members of your organisation.

Actually, it's rather possible that I'm the only person right now who gives two knuts if he lives or dies, which means I should probably tell you who it is.

It's Seamus Finnigan.

Deeply loathed, yes. Strategically important, not so far as I know. I'll see what I can do.

Appreciated.

What's he writing to Bellatrix about?
Is "Terry Boot Longbottom" one of your Aurors?

No. Why do you ask?

He wrote to Finnigan and while I haven't read the exchange, apparently he said enough for Seamus to deduce that Boot-Longbottom is an animagus, and that there are likely other animagi in your group.

So he's passing that info along to Lady Lestrange.

Fuck.

She might've read it from him anyway.

But not if he didn't know it in the first place.
Right. Just got some info from my source on exactly how Bellatrix pulled off that stunt with Nesbitt. She used Rigel. There have been rumours circulating for years in old MLE about Rigel Lestrange and how he could instinctively cast the Imperius curse, or some such. (Allegedly because Bellatrix drank unicorn blood while pregnant -- Hermione, would it do that?)

Apparently Nesbitt had a meeting with Bellatrix and Rigel right before he went on WWN. This isn't Imperius, though -- Nesbitt truly believes he saw Sirius and Draco kill his family. What this suggests is that Rigel can modify people's memories, in detail. Bellatrix tells Rigel this is a game, and keeps him content and happy when she's not using him for his powers.

Hydra, how old is he now? What can you tell us about his abilities? Draco, did you ever meet him?

I think we may need to try to get him away from Bellatrix. That's not going to be easy, nor figuring out what to do with him, after. (We could send him to Saltash, I suppose. Though ideally it would be nice if he grew up a decent human being, and robbing him of his natural abilities, even temporarily, might or might not be a productive step in that direction.)

He'll be six at the end of July.

He's my brother so I should be able to answer these questions, but Mummy often kept him apart from other people, for obvious reasons. I can tell you that when he was younger the extent of his ability seemed to be that he made everyone inclined to keep him happy, whatever that might entail. His nanny, Mrs Baylock, more or less gave up her entire family in order to devote her life and time to him.

It didn't effect me except for the one time I tried to legilimise him.
And after that I spent hours playing with him, and it felt like the most crucial, important thing in the world that we keep playing and keep having fun. Because that's what he wanted.

I think Mummy must be safe from him so long as she doesn't legilimise him, but I don't think anyone else is immune. Even if they can resist Imperius.

I've never known him to be able to modify people's memories, but if he really wanted someone to believe something, he could get them to do so, perhaps. Just like I believed that playing with him was absolutely necessary, that one time he influenced me.

Shame there's no way to persuade her to legilimise him. That would be quite a few problems solved, if Bellatrix set aside affairs of state to play with her five-year-old son for the next few years.

Anyway, do you know where he lives, most of the time? When he's not paying social calls with Bellatrix, that is.

How good is his nanny with a wand?

It used to be Saint James Palace but I don't know if she's brought him over to live at Buckingham full time or not.

Mrs Baylock was Harry's nanny, so she's no slouch.
If it's St James, would you be able to get in? (And back out.)

Not anymore.

Mummy will have prepared for the possibility of me trying to get in there, I'm sure.

Unless she thinks I'd never dare come back, which I suppose could be the case but it seems a bit too much to hope for.

I think we need to figure out a way to get our hands on Rigel. See if you can come up with one.

All right.

They ate the meat, first year. I think only Voldemort drank its blood but the others all had unicorn meat. And almost everyone was violently ill, too, afterward. I don't think it's ever occurred to anyone what might happen if a pregnant woman ingests unicorn flesh. It sounds to me like he inherited some of her skill in Legilimency only it was altered somehow by the unicorn's magical properties. So instead of reading others' thoughts, whatever he thinks or wants is what they want, too.
Anyway, yes, it's possible.

If Hydra wasn't affected, then the thing to do is have the people taking care of him Occlude, or perhaps be Animagi, so he can't affect them, the way he couldn't affect Hydra. Then he can have all the tantrums he wants and it won't matter.

alt_hydra at 2015-06-14 20:07:05
(no subject)

I'm not certain animagi are immune.

She used him to convince the werewolves to work with her, after all. Which isn't exactly the same but it may not bode well.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-14 20:08:54
(no subject)

No, it doesn't.

Well, we'll use Saltash if we have to. I'm not wasting you on babysitting, even for your little brother.

alt_rachel at 2015-06-14 20:53:43
Private message to Alice

I need to talk to you privately, in person, sometime today or tomorrow.

alt_alice at 2015-06-14 22:41:42
Re: Private message to Alice

We'll be back from John's funeral in an hour or so.
They also realised Sirius isn't the only animagus.

Be careful.
Private message to Jason Montague

Thanks for getting me into the Auror training. I like keeping busy.

I was thinking today, though. About Boot's message -- about the useful bits, I mean, not just him trying to twist the knife. He more or less told me he was an animagus, but he also told me Neville Longbottom died in the same rite as Harry Marvolo did. The Phoenix must have had someone else there, who got away and told them what happened, right? And it HAD to have been an animagus, because even if someone somehow got in under a disillusionment spell, Bellatrix would have known they were there.

And it couldn't have been Boot -- whatever he turns into, it's big enough to rip out a man's throat. Dog, I imagine, or wolf -- big cats, bears, they don't have to go for the throat, but in any case surely THAT would have been noticed.

Back last winter, Ron Weasley brought Sally-Anne Perks' rat back to our dorm room. Or at least, he said it was her rat. It didn't act especially rat-like. So now I'm wondering -- maybe it wasn't actually Perks' rat, but one of their lot had worked out how to do the transformation, but not how to get back? I've heard that's one of the dangers of trying to learn, that you can get stuck as an animal if you do it wrong. Anyway, it's possible a rat could have gone along and spied. And got away, after. I don't know who it was, though. No one was missed, though I don't know how much that matters, they might have had someone use polyjuice and pass themselves off as Weasley or Perks or whichever traitor was stuck being a rat that day.

Training, don't mention it. It's where you belong, yeah?

I suppose all of them could be working on becoming animagi even as I write this. Though it wouldn't be nearly so high priority now as it was a few months ago.

You said that a lot of the Phoenixes, like Malfoy, knew how to
occlude, right? And that's not something everyone can learn. Some people just don't have the disposition for it.

So, your animagi are likely to be the people who couldn't master occlumency, but knew that they might have to cross paths with Lady Lestrange.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-14 18:39:27
(no subject)

Weasley.

He was applying for Auror training. Had that internship, all of it. He's got to be. I mean, unless he learned to occlude some other way.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-14 18:40:08
(no subject)

Do you know how to occlude?

alt_jason at 2015-06-14 18:56:07
(no subject)

Yeah, I met Weasley a few times. You're right, there was nothing there.

And no, I don't know how to occlude any more than an animagus does. Both of us seem to be naturally unreadable. I can swear to you that I don't turn into any kind of animal (except for the fun kind, when the situation requires it).

I've read up a bit on it, though. Occlusion is really hard to learn unless you have a willing legilimens to work with. Because how else will you know if you're actually doing it, right?

So all the Phoenixes who can occlude must have learnt it from Hydra Lestrange, or old Dumbledore. Possibly even Severus Snape, whom it's said mastered the legilimency spell even if he wasn't a natural at it.
Do you think I could learn? I mean, would you help me, if I tried? I don’t really know -- I mean, there are probably books, somewhere. To tell me what I’m supposed to be doing.

And do you think I should tell anyone? Anyone else, I mean. About Weasley, Boot, the rat, all of it.

As soon as you tell someone, it won't belong to you anymore. And it will be out of your hands. But now that you're thinking it, it's already out of your hands. Or will be, whenever you next run into Lady Lestrange.

She'd likely appreciate your pro-activeness.

But this is where occlusion would be useful, wouldn't it?

And yeah, 'course I'll help you. Though I've never taught anyone before, keep in mind.

There are probably ways to make the lessons interesting, though.

I like the way that sounds.
Why?

Because you already know by now that when I say I'll make something "interesting" that it will involve sex?

I'm getting too predictable. Perhaps I already was.

Only on some topics.

I have a few surprises left.

Got any free time today?

Tonight I do.
Good.
2015-06-14 13:57:00
Private message to Barty

Protocol 13, from now until further notice.

Not just dogs - all animals encountered on patrol.

alt_bellatrix

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-14 22:35:28
(no subject)

Confirmed. All units so instructed.

alt_bellatrix at 2015-06-14 23:28:53
(no subject)

Suggest that you prioritise dogs and rats. Then any animal small enough to stow away on another person.
2015-06-14 14:16:00  
Private message to Bellatrix Lestrange

Something I think you should know, ma'am -- I'm pretty sure several of the Phoenixes are animagi.

1. Terry Boot, the mudblood who used to belong to Carrow. In his message to me he said that he'd torn out Amycus Carrow's throat with his teeth. I saw a lot of muggle violence in Ireland, and their teeth just don't work that way. And if he were a werewolf, Carrow would've known and taken precautions, so I think he must be an animagus that transforms into something large or at least medium-sized, with sharp teeth. Something that hunts, that can jump. A dog, a wolf, maybe one of the large cats.

2. Ron Weasley. Because that explains why he was so sure he wouldn't get caught as a traitor, working in MLE, around you and Auror Penderyn.

I think there are also others; Ron Weasley brought a rat back to our dorm room last winter that didn't act like a proper rat, so I think someone can turn into a rat. I think maybe someone was trying to learn the transformation and got themselves stuck, especially since a few days later the rat was gone and I never saw it again.

And -- this is also from the mudblood's message -- that rite with Our Lord where you know, where Harry Marvolo died? One of the Phoenixes was there, spying, because they know Neville Longbottom died there too. I think maybe the rat went along. Or someone else who transforms into something very small.

Anyway, I apologise for wasting your time if these are all things you already knew from other sources, but I thought it was better to tell you than not.

@alt_bellatrix at 2015-06-14 19:56:33  
(no subject)

Thank you for the information.

I will pass on to our head of MLE to initiate protocol 13.
Should I know what protocol 13 is, ma'am? My training in combat so far has been excellent, but codes and instructions, it's been a little erratic.

There's a spell that will force an animagus into its human form; one of the others of your cohort should know it. Has no affect on ordinary animals. 13 involves casting that spell on animals encountered in the field.

Thank you, ma'am. I will learn the spell immediately.
ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Remus

Why must we always be the ones who are reasonable? The ones who compromise? The ones who have the basic fucking decency to return the dead to their families? Is the reason why they don't give us a single goddamn quarter because we're winning and they're desperate? Or is it because we're just that gullible?

Lucinda is an utter wreck. She kept saying over and over again that she'd thought the worst of it was over, that people'd been back and forth to the Ministry a dozen times without running into resistance, that she just didn't understand how he could've been killed doing such a simple task, and her rage could light a dozen fires.

She's far from the only one.

I am tired, and my heart aches, and I cannot

What we're building has to be based on principles of justice, not revenge.

I know that.

I also know that we can't have our fullest measure of justice, not if we want to move forward.

Merlin knows we can't lock up half the wizards in England.

I am just beyond furious that we must fight as fairly as we can and still work uphill against slander after slander, when they can go blithely skipping about murdering innocent people for public relations purposes, and that our mercy can be requested and assumed when our Lucinda had no body to bury, and you need to talk to Rachel about what we're going to do regarding Seamus fucking Finnigan, because I really cannot be objective right now, apparently.
She wanted to talk about Finnigan, when you met with her?

Yes. Apparently, Jason Montague's invested in his future.

I find I am far less patient and far more angry than I used to be. It would be foolish to expect that our victory would be immediate, and I knew we'd have a great deal of work to do after, but Merlin, Remus, I thought there'd be some measure of resolution. Some satisfaction. Maybe even some joy.

I suspect all that will be a while off yet. And in the meantime, we're left stumbling along, mourning those who aren't here with us, and fighting to keep what ground they bled for.

You realise I'm just in a particularly awful mood, and you're a person I love and can tell things to who won't take offense.

I'm sorry, Remus.

Merlin, I need a spliff or three.
We all need -- I'm not sure. To forgive our own mistakes and anger, for one thing.

I talked to Rachel. Her people will try to bring in Seamus Finnigan alive, if they encounter him. We can still try that little bastard for his crimes. If Jason Montague wants full amnesty for him, he'd best be prepared to bring us Bellatrix Lestrange's head on a platter, and I mean that literally.

Did she mention the business with Terry, when she spoke with you?

All right.

I believe I can accept that with a certain degree of grace.

And no, she didn't. What happened?

Apparently that note Terry left for Seamus Finnigan last week gave him enough information to work out that Terry is an animagus, and that probably there are others, likely including one that's small enough to have gone along to the rite.

Mind you, they already knew we had a spy at the rite; it's possible Bellatrix had already guessed there was an animagus involved. Rachel's warned Ron they might be on the lookout for animals, and she tracked Terry down tonight and had a chat with him. She said she was as gentle as she could be, but he got extremely upset with himself, and now she's worried she should have let you handle it instead. He's not equipped with tremendous self-confidence as it stands, and it's not as if he reports to her.
Frankly, I think it was inevitable they'd realise we had more animagi than just Sirius, sooner or later.

@alt_alice at 2015-06-15 04:26:16
(no subject)

Bugger.

Yes. I think it was rather inevitable too.

I'll see what I can do. Thank you for passing it along.

@alt_lupin at 2015-06-15 04:30:06
(no subject)

How much do you trust Jason Montague, anyway? Think this business about Rigel is intended to lure us in to a trap?

@alt_alice at 2015-06-15 04:38:16
(no subject)

I think he's hedging his bets on both ends. I think that means he's looking out for what's best for him, and that he's not particularly loyal to any side -- at least that's what I hope. That he sees where the wind is blowing.

If he does set a trap and we walk into it, that could be quite profitable for him in the short term, no mistaking, but he'd put all his eggs in one basket and assume his people will ultimately win, and I don't see him being that big of a gambler. And he told us about Finnigan, which might serve to put us at ease, and might be an utter lie, but I don't think it'd offer him any advantage to lie about it. So there's that.

I think as long as this arrangement remains in his best interests, we might be able to trust at least a little.
That analysis makes sense. I think you're right, that he's hedging his bets.

Well, it's good to know I haven't lost all of my capacity for rational thought.
Order only: Private message to Fred and George Weasley

Your sister-in-law Rachel tracked me down tonight. She told me

Shite, I'm such an idiot.

All the time I was living at Moddey Dhoo, I was so careful when I wrote in the journals never to give away any Order secrets. But I was stupid, and I wrote to Seamus Finnigan. I was so angry at him about Neville, and I wanted to make him afraid, and so I mouthed off to him. More than I should have.

Because of what I wrote to him, he figured out I'm an animagus, and worse, that we have more animagi than just me. And he's passed it along to others.

If Ron

It'll be my fault

Look, I'm not going out with you to the camps tomorrow. And maybe not for the foreseeable future. There's more than enough Potions work for me to do here.

I'll keep my knife busy and my bloody fool mouth shut.

alt_fred at 2015-06-15 12:15:56
(no subject)

Terry,

It's okay, mate. The future of Albion doesn't rest on what you say or don't say in the journals. But we reckon you won't make a mistake like that again, right?
I certainly won't. I don't think I'll say anything that's not Order Only in the journals until Bellatrix Lestrange, Barty Crouch and Seamus Finnigan are dead.

If Ron gets unmasked because of what I said, I'll never forgive myself. Merlin, Fred and George, I'm sorry.

Terry, given that they know that Rachel and Ron were operating under Bellatrix Lestrange's noses for months, they had to consider that possibility anyway, yeah? Either that, or to figure they had dead certain occlumency.

I suppose so.

Rachel will warn Ron, and Ron'll listen to her.

Unlike me. Who apparently forgot everything I was ever told about security in the journals. And gave myself away to Seamus Finnigan, of all people.
Look, mate, quit beating yourself up for it. Learn from it and move on, yeah?

You're right, there's plenty for you to do with Potions. Hermione will be glad of the help. We'll be all right if you want to stay close for now.

We'll come see you tonight when we're back, all right?

Yeah, okay.

Thanks
**2015-06-15 11:52:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Alice and Remus*

I think we're about ready to go. Radhika and Ellen are going to take photographs to establish that Draco and I are working with the good people of Brighton to rebuild their boardwalk.

Merlin, what a massive annoyance, but I admit I'm looking forward, in some ways, to doing a little work with my hands.

Alice, I left something for you in the drawer of your desk. Open only when you're alone. Circe knows I needed one after John's service, and Remus mentioned you were feeling particularly tense, too.

Anyway.

We'll be back by dark, I expect.

---

**alt_lupin** at **2015-06-15 17:32:43**

*Private message to Padfoot*

How's it going?

I know it's a good idea, but sending the suspected vicious killers out to build a boardwalk just seems ... I don't know. I couldn't think of anything better, either.

Are the Brighton residents at least treating you ... they don't believe that story, do they?

---

**alt_sirius** at **2015-06-15 18:47:02**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

A few were a bit worried at first. I think that's behind us now.

And yes, I understood Radhika's logic when she laid it out. It does seem like a waste of time we could spend elsewhere but in the long run, this one day might help us win more supporters than three or four Grim Truths could do.
Manual labour - well, any sort of occupation, really - helps in other ways, too.

I should have insisted that Nick and John not go.

@alt_lupin at 2015-06-15 22:23:25
Re: Private message to Padfoot

I don't know why you think that one's on your shoulders.

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-16 02:08:25
Re: Private message to Padfoot

Because I was possibly the last person to see them? Because I've been somewhat responsible for John since he jumped into my boat all those years ago? Because now Alec and Lucinda are alone?

I don't think I'm directly responsible, no, but - I ought to have known it was too dangerous for them.

I'm back, by the way. We - I - decided to grab a little solitude while we had the chance.

@alt_lupin at 2015-06-16 02:13:19
Re: Private message to Padfoot

Should I come find you?

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-16 02:33:47
Re: Private message to Padfoot

Might want to let the air clear a while. Unless you'd like to join me. I'm in the Divination tower, got the skylight open.
Bless. Thank you.
I managed to catch Auror Brodie at breakfast before our team took off, and she had all sorts of suggestions for what I could read up on to learn how to be an animagus.

She said I needed to be prepared to be any animal, even one that wasn't special or interesting, and I said I'd be a dung-beetle if it let me be in the same room as you when you needed it. I know a dung-beetle isn't terribly huggable. Still. Better than nothing at all, I say.

And then she up and asked me if I'd be interested in training for the Auror programme. Me. An Auror. I told her I had to help the camps settle, but that I'd think about it in a year or so. Still, rather chuffed she'd consider a weedy bloke like me!

We're going to stick around Moddey tonight -- took longer than expected to bring in the latest round of parents, and we're knackered and they need some help settling, but we'll be back tomorrow for supper for certain.

I certainly don't expect you'll be a dung beetle! Anyway, I'm grateful that you're willing to try.

I feel...well, less terrified thinking about next time, because I know now what it will be like. But I'm feeling more...loathing? It's unpleasant. (That's putting it mildly.) I don't wish to complain about it every time, though, as that will quickly become tiresome for everyone around me. It'll just be something I have to face every month, and so I may as well become used to it. But Terry was right. It did help so much to have someone there with me I trust.

An Auror! Really? Was that something you had thought before you'd like to do, or hadn't it even occurred to you? Of course she's right: if you can become an Animagus, it would make you an excellent prospect for them. Well, I suppose (I hope) that they won't need
everyone in the Auror corps to know occlumency in a year or so. Hopefully we will have caught and stopped our primary opponents. Or Mrs Lestrange, at least. But if you can do the Animagus transformation, that would mean you are able to do quite a lot of the advanced magics that they will need.

(Weedy? Pssshh. I expect you've just not finished growing yet.)

alt_kingsley at 2015-06-17 04:17:18
(no subject)

I hadn't even thought I'd be in that calibre, really. I mean, I'm not half bad at defence, but I know Weasley, Malfoy, or either of the Finch-Fletchleys could best me, even though I'd make them work for it first. And I haven't sat for OWLs, and my education, well, it really hasn't been terribly standardised. So I thought that'd get in the way of things.

(I expect I'll probably always be a touch weedy, though -- good thing my girl doesn't seem to mind terribly much.)

alt_luna at 2015-06-18 03:49:10
(no subject)

Maybe your education hasn't been standardised, but there parts of it that make me envy you a little. Oh, don't mistake me; Hogwarts is truly wonderful in many ways. But I've talked with Lisa Turpin and Terry, and there are all the stories you told me, too. I think that the people in charge of your education were kind, at least, and sometimes that wasn't true here. In rather spectacular ways. Perhaps you'll discover that since you've spent years rubbing elbows with every sort of person--both wizards and muggles, and I believe that Mrs Scrim is a squib, isn't she?--that you're comfortable with different sorts of people. That will be an advantage for you, as things are changing. So many of the students here aren't.

Linus Moon, for example: I was just talking with him tonight. It's clear that he feels as if he's been picked up by his heels and shaken roughly, and bits of his brains are leaking out of his ears. All of his ideas have been so overset--he told me how absolutely
astounded he was that muggles could write poetry, *good* poetry, for example. And yet, although he's dying of curiosity, and he wants badly to pepper you and Lisa and Terry with questions, he feels quite tongue-tied when any of you are about. I've spent the evening trying to convince him that it's quite all right to ask. (If he plucks up his courage and speaks to you, and the questions seem strange, well, he *is* trying. Do keep in mind that asking questions is rather a Ravenclaw thing to do.)
Virgil Crispin.

This one's likely to be quite a bit more difficult than Runge; he's no slouch with a wand, and he'll be on his guard. Take your time and wait for a good opportunity. If he's sticking too close to Buckingham, report back.

This time, leave him to be found. Use your own judgment about where and how.

Understood.
How's everything going?

I know it's late but I only just had a few minutes to sit and work on my notes.

Can you get us a list of potions in need of resupply? Terry and a few others are helping Professor Slughorn with the regular stock. If I need to reassign anyone because you're running through things quickly, I can pull a couple more volunteers.

Oh, and Healer Culpeper's going to do the Wolfsbane this month, but I sort of want to be available when he does, he doesn't have a lot of practice doing it. So I might need to assign some of Professor Slughorn's assistants to Sleeper work.

Potions. Yes. Basically any variety of sleep potion is still being drawn down very quickly, and not just within Hogwarts, you know those visits we've been making to Order-supportive villages, we've had lots of people asking. We're also running low on Anti-Infective and Burn Paste. We're out of Mistress Plumpwell's Anti-Wasting Remedy and we'll need a substitute, also Tummy Tonic, and you know they want more veritaserum, right? I mean not the Healers but the people down at the gate.

I know I had a list somewhere. I'm pretty sure I'm forgetting something.

Yes, Professor Slughorn's making the veritaserum himself (actually he wants me to make a cauldron 'when we have a chance,' but I've no idea when that will even be). Okay.
The problem is if I reassign Fitz then I have to either send Arista Selwyn with her or have someone else work with Arista when she's working.

Hm, maybe I can - oh, I know. Pip Macmillan! He's not in anyone's rota yet.

**@alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-18 04:24:59  
(no subject)

I can come help brew, if you want, I mean instead of going out with the other Healers, if you need someone. Not for anything like veritaserum mind you. I could do the burn paste, though.

**@alt_hermione** at 2015-06-18 04:28:18  
(no subject)

No, I can always press for a few more helpers, but the Healers need skilled assistants.

Burn paste doesn't take too long, anyway.

**@alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-18 04:30:53  
(no subject)

I never know if I'm going to spend the day with someone who's going to make me stand around and watch no matter how simple the job is, or if I'm going out with someone who's going to say, 'you take everyone in that queue over there, shout if anyone gets worse after you treat them.'

I think it would be better to have me making burn paste than spend a full day with the first sort.

**@alt_hermione** at 2015-06-18 04:33:59  
(no subject)

Well, if you get that sort, you could come back and take over the burn paste!

Or. Maybe if Draco doesn't have an assignment
tomorrow, he'll come help.

Or not. I mean, he's an excellent potioneer but I'll have to make sure he and Terry aren't in the same lab.

You know, brewing is easy but managing all these staff is much more complicated.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-18 04:36:50
(no subject)

Draco can't even be in the same room as Terry to brew potions?

Or does it run the other way?

alt_hermione at 2015-06-18 04:43:34
(no subject)

Oh, no, it's nothing like that--I mean, I don't think there'd be any sort of trouble, really. I'd just rather not have to worry about any sort of awkwardness. Draco hardly notices Terry, I don't think--and it's not as if Terry doesn't get on with Draco, he does, I mean, they're well enough together, but--well, it's hard to explain.

You know how Sarah Fawcett looks at me, sometimes? Like she's wondering if I'll ever be quite good enough for Draco?

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-18 04:45:07
(no subject)

Oh, sure. Yeah.

Except Terry was never your boyfriend. Was he? I mean, Sarah WAS Draco's girlfriend for a while.
Terry? No, of course not.

Though, he'd have liked to have been. I mean, I think he still sometimes wishes I felt that way.

And sometimes I'm not even sure I feel that sort of thing about Draco. I mean, like you and Ron. Or Justin and Hydra. I suppose I fancy Draco more than I've ever fancied anyone--anyone real, that is, not a crush or anything--but--I dunno. I keep wondering if we'll wake up one morning and he'll remember that I'm nothing special, that I'm plain and I babble and I forget I have quills in my hair, and I smell like the inside of a cauldron instead of lilacs and rose petals. And he'll realise how much better he could do.

Sorry, I didn't mean to--it doesn't matter.

Anyway, I'd just as soon not put him and Terry into close contact just to see what happens.

You're not plain when you're talking about something you find interesting.

And I think that's what Draco sees when he looks at you even when you're not talking.

Anyway I see what you mean about Terry. Probably better not to put them to work together.

Well, I'll figure something out. Maybe I'll tell Healer Culpeper he's needed for healing
potions first, and put off the Wolfsbane another few days. We've got time.

Oh, it's nearly midnight. I should finish up these batch notes and get to sleep. You too, I expect.

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-18 05:01:10
(no subject)

Anyway Arista works with you just fine, despite her crush on Draco!

Doesn't she? Actually I guess I'm just assuming, there. Since you're letting her work on the potions.

@alt_hermione at 2015-06-18 05:03:14
(no subject)

She does all right, considering she's barely eleven. That's why I have Fitz with her, though, because sometimes she's a little restless. Plus she only helps about half the time.

Though, I suppose I could have her work with Draco and she'd be certain to do everything just right--I don't think he'd forgive me, though!

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-18 05:05:46
(no subject)

If Ron ever comes by to help with potions work you could have him supervise her. She'd want to impress him, too. And Ron LIKES being worshipped by Arista. ( Comes of being the almost youngest of seven.)

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-18 04:16:38
(no subject)

OH, I remember what it was.

For some of the camps. Derverminating shampoo.
LOTS of it. Although honestly I think just treating heads one at a time is never going to do the job properly.

**alt_hermione** at 2015-06-18 04:24:24  
(no subject)

Deverminating.

Why not use the rune?

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-18 04:26:11  
(no subject)

Because they're muggles and they think they need shampoo, I guess? I offered a rune and they didn't trust me it would work. (I decided not to tell them about the time I used a rune to set a plague of lice on Ravenclaw House, that didn't seem like it would exactly send the right message.)

**alt_hermione** at 2015-06-18 04:31:50  
(no subject)

Right.

Well, I can't ask Terry to do that one. And Emrys has a good touch with the knife, for the gurdyroots, but that means taking him off the guarana.

Might be worth it, though.

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-18 04:36:00  
(no subject)

I guess it depends on whether we think the muggles should be told to suck it up and wait for the runes to work.
You might be better off. They have to start trusting some magic, don't they?

If those idiots who ran the camps had put up those runes years ago this would have saved a lot of trouble. And it would have taken them what, a half hour? It's ridiculous.
Hey.

You're taking the full weekend. Okay? If I have to sit on you.

And tomorrow night we're going to get drunk off our arses.

And we're going to tackle Ashfield's transport issues. Tomorrow. Not tonight. And if we don't finish it by the time we stop working and start drinking, we'll get back on the broom on Monday. The potatoes will still be there, waiting patiently. I promise.
Order Only: private message to Pansy

Told the parents I'll be rambling this weekend with some mates. Promised I'd be in safe areas. Well, Moddey's safe, yeah?

Yes, I'm taking from now until Monday morning. Maureen has a positively indecent look of triumph. Setting her on me was unfair. Also quite effective.

Mind you get a bit of holiday yourself, or I'll set Weasleys on you. Note the plural. I'm not above calling in favours for a bit of revenge here.

Good. And yes, barring calamity, I'll be setting a good example.

Tell Maureen she ought to spoil you fantastically.
Good evening,

Draco, thank you for the loan of the cloak.

I thought it might be useful to describe some of what I've seen today. Overall, the city seems peaceful on the surface, what, but on closer observation there are signs that all is not well. There are numerous checkpoints in the more populated areas, what, where Enforcers are patrolling.

I overheard a shopkeeper talking about that with one of his patrons. It seems that they're paying the Enforcers to patrol regularly.

The areas around Buckingham, Westminster and Green Park have all had their security increased. It's well difficult to get near without detection.

The Council aren't walking outside of that zone, either. Apparation and Floo, I expect.

Rachel, I've a plan for tomorrow which might bear fruit. If not, I'll return and we'll regroup.

-Justin
Order Only: Private message to Alice, Remus, Charlie, Rachel

Sorry. Just realised I should pass this along more usefully than trying to remember to catch any of you at a meal.

We've been head down in trying to sort out the wards, but we are not planning on taking any substantial new step for the solstice tomorrow.

I'm not at all happy with some of what Rookwood's proposing, not without a lot better idea of what it might do. Or what it might do to the dragons, in specific.

And we're still not entirely confident with how to undo the dark rite. We're a lot closer than we were, but there's a lot of risk if we try something and get it wrong. Irma's digging up some more resources for us, things that give us a framework for the rite to undo the Ireland wards.

We have taken some steps to better shift the energy tomorrow, circulate it, in the Octoboros. It's probably not at all safe - safe from whoever they've got patrolling, I mean, not the stones themselves - to get near the seven stones we don't control. But we'll have people closely observing at Dover and at the 9th point, and taking measurements from dawn until sunset, and if there is some way to get someone near the other stones, I can pass along what observations would be useful.

There is some risk in not relieving the pressure, but it's not a risk we can predict easily. I do think we'll be able to do something much more solidly useful before next solstice - maybe even within the next month or two.

Just not tomorrow.
Understood. We'll keep an eye out in case there are any unanticipated earthquakes or other oddness.
Hey.

Do you know where I can get anymore of that stuff?

What's it called again?

Has a lot of names. It's in relatively short supply, at least until the importation lines are opened again, or I find someone's grow house. (And then it still needs to be dried and processed to be smoked or used any other way.)

Glad you liked it, though probably shouldn't make too frequent a habit of it. I figured you could use something a little stronger to help unwind.

That was just the best night of sleep I've had in a good, long while.

I mean, it isn't like I forgot about everything that's happened.

But it seemed farther away, somehow. Or like it was outside me. You know, not making me dirt touching for a while.

Yeah. That's one thing it's good for. Better than alcohol, for that.

Not that it's good to rely on it. Not good to rely on anything, really.
But I have a little more.

 alt_draco at 2015-06-22 01:45:37  
(no subject)

Oh, leave off on that rubbish. The only people who say it's "not good to rely on anything" are deluding themselves.

Everyone relies on someone or something.  
Everyone.

 alt_sirius at 2015-06-22 02:24:19  
(no subject)

Rely on? It may be splitting hairs, but I would say lean on, certainly, fall back on, perhaps. But rely? Depends on what you mean.

Nothing's a perfect solution, Draco.

I'm not lecturing you, believe me. I understand wanting something extra now and then, no one better.

There was a long time there for me, too, when want turned into need. Maybe I'm worried about it happening to me again, as well as you.

 alt_draco at 2015-06-22 02:45:42  
(no subject)

I'm not just talking about alcohol or potions or things that can be smoked.

I mean we all rely on something. Or someone. It can be as abstract as anything but it's still there. And I don't think there's anything wrong with that.

Anyway, now I'm the one splitting hairs.
Like I said, it depends on what you mean by 'rely' - do you mean there are people you trust absolutely? that there are tricks you have learned always work to make you feel better? Or do you mean that you've decided you're incomplete without someone or something that you crave?

I'm just musing, mate. I don't really want to discuss what I rely on, if that's alright with you.

Fair enough.

And good.

About having more.
This protocol 13 business is getting tiresome. And I'm speaking for nearly everyone here, not just myself.

The Units are getting weary of having to try the forced-transformation on every mouse or rat that skitters across our path, and since they're getting weary, they're also getting sloppy and lazy. At least when Crouch isn't around.

That's good news for you, isn't it?

Though let's be honest, there's no way that your form is that of a mouse or rat.

Well, that's definitely better news than, 'we've caught some hapless animagus; one of yours?'

Nothing so far.

Are you ever going to tell me what you turn into?

Or would you rather I guess?

Oh, by all means. Guess.
This ought to be a laugh.

I'd say "mink" because it sounds like "minx" (and is sleek and soft, as well), but I don't think that's right.

Turtle?

Turtle?!!

You're not even close.

It's a bit slow and plodding, and I'll admit that doesn't fit, but it's also heavily armoured.

Cat?

Nope.

Let me try a different question: when you discovered your form, were you surprised?

Or did it seem to fit?

We both know what kind of creature you think I'd be.
I was a bit surprised.
Can't say whether you'd be surprised, or not.

Well, you always were rather good at surprising me.
So perhaps my guessing is a hopeless venture, yeah?

But if I did know, and my Unit came upon you in animagus form, then it could be to your benefit. For all sorts of reasons.

True, though I would rather not stake my life on your ability to create a last-minute distraction.

I mean, this is a rather personal question. You got some bit of personal information you'd care to share in exchange?

I'm a person, so I probably have some personal information, yes.

Don't really know what kind you'd be interested in, do I?
Can you cast the patronus charm? You could tell me your patronus.

It's a red fox.

I'm utterly serious.

Well, clearly I was prescient then. Or clairvoyant. Or something.

Do you know why Voldemort Marked you? You really were rather an unusual choice. Your parents weren't Councilwizards (nor any uncles). The Montagues aren't one of the Sacred 28. You weren't the special protege of Bellatrix Lestrange. Add to that the fact that he couldn't read your mind and it's just ... surprising, I guess.

Anyway, I turn into a hedgehog. Small, but not terribly practical for spying; people tend to notice them. They're also terribly out of place anywhere but a garden party.

He did not, in fact, ever sit down and tell me.

Maybe it's precisely because he couldn't read my mind. Just to keep a close eye on me. But then that wouldn't explain why you and everyone else who can't be read weren't also marked, too.

So I haven't rightly got an explanation for it.
Noticeable as human, and noticeable as animal. That part, at least, doesn't surprise me.

I doubt anyone would ever describe me as adorable as a human, however. Though 'prickly' is a possibility.

I wasn't ever called to Court, so I'm not sure when he'd have noticed he couldn't read me. Were you taken there by someone? I can't imagine your Marking was the first time you'd ever been in his presence.

Sarah's father took me to court twice before he died. I was doing impressive work in those days, apparently.

Anyway, it still came as a right shock. And so soon after what happened in Ireland, besides. I guessed that Crouch would see to it that I was out of a job, after that, and yet I got called in to take the Mark, instead.

Life's funny.

If Crouch had been allowed to sack every person who hacked him off, the Auror department would have consisted of himself, Bellatrix Lestrange, and possibly Lana Sandoval but I think I'm just forgetting something.

I can see why the Mark came as a surprise, though.
Minx-

Gateshead, Inferi. Tonight.

Inferi?

That was good intel. Thank you. No Inferi, but I'd much rather come prepared than be surprised.

None of our missing know your name. They know I have a source, and they know you're on the list of people to avoid engaging with, and avoid lethal force with. There are enough names on that list to give you some camouflage, I think.

Antonin Dolohov's been making inferi. I thought it better to alert you to the possibility of their presence. I'm not sure what exactly they're planning to do with them, but he's been tasked to make 5,000.

Cheers for the cover.
2015-06-21 19:00:00
Private Message to Virgil Crispin

Work like today's calls for a minor celebration, don't you think? Well done, getting all those donations. Interested in a drink? A few lads are gathering at the Oroboros in about an hour.

It's not all good news, though. The Canary Wharf lot have come up short for the week. Tomorrow we'll send Torneur, Nashe and some others in Phoenix armbands to unleash a bit of terror. Have already told Crouch to keep the others away until Torneur's signal. Haven't heard about Battersea yet--any word, your end?

Oh, you asked about young Finnigan. Well enough, I think, but it's Monty who really has him in hand. More infatuation than deep attachment. He was simply better positioned to capitalise on the lad's loneliness. I don't doubt he's loyal, in fact, he's thrilled to be training for the Aurors. He's still looking for his niche, ways to be helpful. If you've ideas, I'm sure he'd be eager to assist.
2015-06-21 21:39:00
**ORER ONLY: Private Message to Charlie, Mum, Professor Siz**

Dover's held steady all day. It looks like the network is managing the load fairly well.

I've a feeling it wouldn't be quite as easy without our ninth stone in the mix. I wonder whether Rookwood will suss out as much, or just think we got lucky?

---

**alt_sinistra** at 2015-06-22 16:59:18
(no subject)

I'm still thinking about the readings from the 9th stone. And I'd like to run some more models. I always want to run more models, I know.

You're right, though, that it makes rather a difference.

I've no idea what Rookwood's thinking. I just - my intuition is that putting more burden on the dragons too soon is totally the wrong thing. (And I'm not just saying that because of seeing that one new kit, Charlie. I stopped in at Stornoway before coming back this morning and Anneliese took me out to watch them for a little.)

I continue to think we want to solve the Ireland wards first. Both because I am entirely unsatisfied in how they were done, given the complexity of the other two sets, and because I'm not at all sure Rookwood understands what the dark rite did in all its parts, and I think he's making some incorrect assumptions.

I mean, I know he's making some incorrect assumptions, but even the ones that might make more sense are wrong. And he's been fairly rational for him in our conversations so far, but who knows if that will change.
2015-06-23 14:02:00
Order Only: Private Message to Rachel

Rachel,

On my way back. I thought I nearly had a perfect opportunity Saturday, what--it didn't pan out quite but it gave me enough hope to stay on another day or two (well, you surely got my Patronus). Unfortunately since then, he's been rather resistant to being caught. Dashed inconsiderate of the man.

I do think I've gathered enough useful intelligence that perhaps with a sufficient lure, I can take him under the right circumstances. We can talk when I return?

I say, after a shower. Trust me, you'll be grateful I've taken the time.

-Justin

alt_rachel at 2015-06-23 19:17:25
(no subject)

By all means, take the time for a shower.

Then come in, and you can tell me what all you found. Do you want anyone else at the meeting? If you think the lure might require the assistance of another Auror, it would probably be a good idea to invite them to hear what you've learned while it's fresh.

alt_justin at 2015-06-23 19:20:49
(no subject)

Yes, we might well need someone else. I expect one of the former MLE Aurors or Enforcers might be better suited to being bait, but I've also a thought regarding the Council's fundraising efforts--and tactics, what--which could be turned against the quarry, and wouldn't necessarily require anything so obvious as another Auror trying to be noticed, in which case anyone will do, really.

I'll leave it to your judgement.
Some people have written to me to ask about the boy in the diary. I'm sorry, but I don't think I want to talk about him any more than I already have - I gave enough of myself to him all those years ago, and now I'm ready to stop. But I will say that he was - mostly likely - exactly who you think he was.

I didn't have very good judgment about men and boys when I was younger. I was always noticing them, and I thought they were probably all much safer and more reliable than women. And so I wanted their attention and protection very badly. Even as young as seven or eight, any kind man I encountered would be cast in the role of the hero who would take me away and marry me, or adopt me, or something of that kind.

But that changed after what happened with the diary. I realised that kindness can be used as a tool and a weapon, and that hostility can take on many different forms. I didn't become completely mistrustful, but I became much more careful, and probably more lonely. So lonely that I even missed writing in the diary sometimes, even though I knew the whole thing had been a lie.

I was glad when the students from Beauxbatons and Durmstrang came to Hogwarts, because they wouldn't know the same things about me that all the other Hogwarts students knew. I hoped it would be an opportunity to make a true friend. And it was.

Everyone knows by now that Justin and I are married. I was going to write about how we met, how we became friends, and how we came to love one another, but for some reason it feels much more personal to share something lovely than something upsetting, like the story behind the diary. Our relationship was a secret for so long, too, that to be open about it now feels peculiar. I get used to it a little more each day, though. To this new life where I can be whatever I want to be.

So what I can tell you as that we came to know each other deeply, and we shared many moments together, both good and bad, just like any other couple. Only I suppose we went through those ups and downs at quite a younger age than most. That's what living in the Protectorate did, though, and not just for me. For many people, it made the simplest of things, like dating and falling in love and having friends,
into a trial.

I can't help but wonder how many of you who are reading this are still living like you're in the Protectorate, and why you would do such a thing.

But then, I know, don't I? I missed my diary. I missed the boy inside it. Don't be like me. Don't miss the things that made you small and fearful. I think it's probably normal to be afraid to go without them, but in the end, it will be better. It's the only way to move forward at all.

---

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-06-23 21:45:28
*Order Only: Private message to Hydra*

How many messages are you getting?

I keep wondering if there's anyone else I ought to write to. Writing to Oliver worked rather well.

---

**alt_hydra** at 2015-06-24 01:03:54
*Re: Order Only: Private message to Hydra*

More than I expected.

But not all of them are nice (that much I did expect).

I don't answer a lot of them because I don't know who wrote them, or they could be from someone Mummy ordered to entrap me. If I do answer, I always try to be careful.

---

**alt_crouch_jr** at 2015-06-24 02:47:54
*Private Message to H Lestrange*

So what do you want to be in this new life you're pursuing?
alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 02:51:45
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

I don't know yet.

Perhaps because I didn't think I'd ever really get to pursue it.

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-24 03:02:30
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

Not a properly trained Auror, then, it seems.

You still drop your weak elbow when you're thinking of other things. Also still have that blind spot. You think you compensate for it, but it's there.

alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 03:09:44
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

Oh. You were only talking about careers.

Is all of that assumption, or actual observation?

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-24 03:20:26
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

You were thinking in less practical terms? Or more existential ones?

Assume you don't wish to change status and become a ghost, say, or an inferi. Or a werewolf. What other 'life' might you want to pursue? You want to be the best little housewitch you can be? (Pull the other one.)

Is there really no one fit to train you in that lot?
@alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 03:32:14
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

Why does it matter to you? My life, my pursuits - my training.

If I say "best little housewitch," would you be disappointed? I can't imagine it really surpassing the other disappointments I've caused - not that I regret them.

Fit in the way that you are, you mean?

I suppose there's not anyone here who does what you do.

@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-24 03:48:16
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

Hm.

Thought you'd moved beyond the childish relish you took in frustrating your mother, your father. Sidestepping the expectations placed on you.

Is that the best you can do? All you can do? When The Prophet comes to interview you, the answer to the question about ambition shouldn't be 'disappointing others'.

I mean fit to train you to meet your potential, to exceed the targets you set for yourself.

You are making a better job of misdirection, distracting your opponent. Need to keep drilling the stutter step.

@alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 03:53:47
Re: Private Message to H Lestrange

You're not training me anymore, though.

I'm not your protégé. I'm not anyone's.
Do you really not know that you matter? To whatever comes of all this. In whatever comes of it. If anything is to come of it on your side, you'll need to be better.

And if you're going to make a mountain of the marital molehill, at least consider bigamy or adultery or something vaguely interesting. Keep the French squib-spawn as a pet, but seek out the pleasure that can sharpen your self-awareness and wind you up to the heights of your power.

Of course I know that I need to be better. But why do you

And thank you but you're really not someone who I would take marital advice from.

Mind you, what I'm offering is extramarital advice. Which you should, in fact, take.

Since when does your training extend to such matters?
It's a pity we didn't begin that study.
Expect you would excel with a bit of coaching.

You don't mean this.
Don't mean
Like I told you before - I know what you're trying to do. It won't work.

You could explore some of it yourself. In a preliminary way.
Recommend that, actually.

It's a natural extension of the sensory-deprivation/awareness amplification drills. You took to those. Begin with the blindfold, and allow your instincts to lead you from there.

I think you're mistaking me for Daphne.
You want to embarrass me, or perplex me in a way that gives you the advantage. I'm a little disappointed, in a way. It seems like a rather obvious tactic, just one I didn't expect from you (maybe because it is rather obvious).
No mistake. On my part.

The mistake is yours if you believe pleasure isn't a tool for honing the senses. It's most useful in calibrating and sharpening awareness.

Embarrassment fades with experience. Gain the latter, you'll find it an advantage. Modesty's a handicap you need to overcome.

Use the blindfold. Tell yourself it's merely a drill at first, if you need to. Dampen and darken the salle if it makes you feel better. And then explore what makes you feel... better.

And to think you told me that I might have missed my calling as a writer of bodice-rippers.

Here's how this one ends - I shut my book for the night. You tell my mother everything she wants to hear about me and discuss my imminent demise. I expect you'll shut your own book, too, eventually.

So goodnight.

Goodnight, little housewitch.

Perhaps you'll dream of training.
alt_hermione at 2015-06-24 04:10:04
Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

I know just how you feel about sharing things. I keep trying to write something about being muggleborn and--well, it just doesn't translate well. It either sounds whinging or high-handed or over-dramatic.

It just seems easier to leave it and just get on. Only people never will let go of the things they think they know, will they?

alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 04:16:45
Re: Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

It's an experiment in just being myself in writing, but I don't know... I can still feel that I'm writing in a way that tries to anticipate the reader's impression and counter it.

I told myself I will stop writing these when I don't want to do it anymore. No one is making me, after all.
2015-06-23 22:37:00
*Private message to Barty*

I've got an updated list of Uncooperatives for you. Three restaurants (Mandalay, Hedgepig, Poppet); one Inn (Blue Mooncalf).

In addition to whatever measures you deem necessary, a 3% increase in operational tax strikes as appropriate. I'll let Crispin know first thing.

And how do you find my daughter this evening?

---

*alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-24 05:03:17
(no subject)*

On it.

Missed Crispin this afternoon. Expect he'll claim he was taking a meeting off-site.

Willing to be prodded. In fact, she seems to enjoy it.

Cannot, however, discover what appeal the phoenixes have for her. They waste her talents; her skills are slipping; and she doesn't look to any of them for guidance or leadership. Declares she's no one's protégé now.

---

*alt_bellatrix at 2015-06-24 05:12:05
(no subject)*

She always did have a manner of provocation all her own, which her father and others (and perhaps even she) seemed ignorant of.

Must there be a specific appeal?

She has some kind of affliction in her, just as my sister did. Who can name its origins? None. It can only be dealt with accordingly.
Don't intend to declare her unsalvageable until it's absolutely necessary. She's in a position to be of value if even involuntarily or half-heartedly. An asset we shouldn't discount or discard unless she forces our hand.

The affliction is romance. And yet, honestly, I can't say she's ever sounded all that besotted, but clearly she is, or she wouldn't have made the choices she has.

So you've decided that her death need not be inevitable? I'd like to know why.

Can you imagine Hydra sounding besotted over anyone? Save perhaps some small rodent or rabbit.

But then isn't the affliction always romance?

She's on the inside there. If she can be manipulated or turned, that would prove extremely valuable.

Possibly, I'm finding the pursuit more enjoyable than I anticipated.

Will bring it to quicker resolution if you wish. Not that I've had a direct opportunity for an attempt yet, but I have had her in sight twice.
Yes. *If.*

Have you reason to believe that she could be manipulated or turned? You did not indicate you thought it possible before.

In other words, has anything changed aside from your level of enjoyment?

I am in no particular hurry at this moment. But I do hope that it's still you pursuing her, and not the other way around.

Believe there's a possibility she could at least be made useful to us.

I'm no more optimistic that we'd gain anything of use if we seized her and tried to force information from her. That effort would be futile. Still believe that if we capture her, killing her will be inevitable.

And, yes, I am aware she might take the notion of hunting me. Would like to think it will occur to her. If so, it would at least draw her into the open.

The most satisfying chase risks reversal, don't you think?

The way you speak of her nearly makes me think that you might have reached some part of her in your time together. Not something I anticipated. Nor, I'm sure, did she (and she may in fact remain unaware of it).

Perhaps she revealed some vulnerabilities to you that have
nothing to do with dueling. Perhaps they even had something to do with me.

And so perhaps she misses you like she misses the boy in the diary.

But I think you must miss her, too. At least a little.

Be careful how you manage that emotion.

@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-24 06:41:58
(no subject)

Point taken.
I noticed that Barty Crouch wrote to you last night. He's been doing that a fair amount, hasn't he? What's his angle? I'll be in my office later if you want to come by to talk in person.

I wish I could tell you. I mean, I wish I could say that he's just berating me and issuing threats, but it's more complicated than that.

Sometimes he offers mocking and scathing critique, but other times he speaks as if he were still training me - or wishes he were. He fires questions at me in that manner he has, as if I were still obligated to answer. And then he likes to get personal. Even sexual. Which he never, ever did before.

But mostly I'm worried because the things he wrote to me last night implied that he's taken the opportunity to watch me. So either he has done, or wants me to think he has.

Do you think he has, or do you think he's bluffing?

Did you ever read sexual attraction from him, when you were working together? If you didn't, that suggests that it's purely because he thinks it might upset or disgust you.

That's what I thought about all night.

I think he has watched me. And he wants me to know it, and know that I didn't sense him there.
And no, I never picked up on actual attraction. I mean, everyone has sexual thoughts about everyone - you have no idea - but that's not the same thing as projecting genuine attraction and desire. I suppose sometimes after a vigorous sparring session he would be thinking very lascivious thoughts about Daphne, but they were definitely about her.

I'll admit the first time he wrote something suggestive, it upset me. It felt like a violation, somehow. Which is maybe what it was intended as.

But last night I told him that I knew he was doing it to embarrass me or perplex me and that it wasn't going to work.

Mostly I hate that this is all happening over the journals. I'd know so much more if it were in person.

@alt_rachel at 2015-06-24 15:56:34
(no subject)

Well, if we capture him alive you're going to be the one questioning him. And then you'll know all you need to know.

I think that's very unlikely, though.

In fact -- if you catch him watching you and he's within wand range, or if you have some other opportunity to kill him, I want you to take it.

@alt_hydra at 2015-06-24 15:58:00
(no subject)

Why wouldn't I?
Well, there might be people in the Order who'd prefer to see him tried. I just wanted to remove any ambiguity.

Oh, I thought maybe you wondered if I had mixed feelings about doing the deed myself. I don't. Though mostly I just don't want him to kill me first.

I would expect you to have some mixed feelings, frankly, but not enough to make you hesitate, given everything.

Not so much as I would have once had.

He's made it evident that he no longer has any respect for me, why should I have any for him?

Dolohov is more complicated. I'm not sure how to handle that one. Unless he's responding to all the people writing to him with threats and sexual innuendo, which seems unlikely.
Dolohov is reluctant to let go of the people he's collected, I imagine. He doesn't want to admit that he had poor judgment in selecting them.

And some of the people he's collected don't want to be let go of. Some of them more than others.

I hate to ask you to spy on our own people. But if you'd like to expand on that, I'm all ears.

I mean, I'd rather not tell you what Justin's thoughts on the matter are. I'm sure he'll tell you himself, if you ask.

Sally Anne's glad she'll never be put into a position where she might have to kill Dolohov, because she really wouldn't want to. And she's also thought about what it was like when he almost killed her, and she really doesn't want a repeat of that, either.

Siz - well, I don't see her a lot, but I know that misses him sometimes and sees him as having been an honestly good friend to her. She's also angry at him for letting everything happen, but then she wants to keep talking to him, too. To me she seems sympathetic to the way that Death Eaters were brought up in their families, and then sort of seduced and brought into the fold (as she sees it), and she hopes that Dolohov will recognise how his thinking's been warped by others for a long time now.
I'll ask Justin myself, though probably in person.

Aurora -- well, she has a task that should keep her well out of Dolohov's orbit. I find it ironic she'd excuse him based on his family history. You, Draco, Pansy and Sirius had every reason to be drawn into that fold, but made your own choices. Not to mention he's not even English -- he chose to join the Protectorate based on ideology, not because he was born to a family full of pureblood snobs, got Sorted into Slytherin, and recruited by his housemates, like you could say, I guess, about Raz.

I guess I worry a bit about some of Dolohov's friends in the Order slipping a bit. Not actively helping him, but giving things away without realising it. They wouldn't be the first.

Me, Draco, Pansy, and Sirius might also give her the notion or hope that he could be convinced to 'see the light,' so to speak.

I for one don't really care what happens with him. He's just one person. We should concern ourselves with reaching out to everyone else.
As Mr Cantrell and his family at the Hedgepig can attest, the Phoenixes represent a clear danger to any who oppose them. We reiterate that the only sensible course of action is to safeguard your loved ones by ensuring the Protectorate knows where to patrol for unwelcome elements in your neighbourhoods.

If there is any doubt as to the viciousness with which the Phoenix treats its enemies, a full account of this evening’s tragic fire will appear in the Prophet tomorrow.

What did they do to the Cantrells? I know it wasn't us.

Did MLE arrive in time to save the Cantrells from the vicious attack by the traitors?

Thankfully, they escaped with their lives. Their livelihood, on the other hand....

Oh, what a shame. I liked the Hedgepig.
There's a rebuilding effort, as I understand.
Cedric, love, I'll be down to Dover tomorrow. I'm sorry for leaving you high and dry for the past week, but we've been burning the candles at Hogwarts to try and sort out how to handle New London and the wards, and it ended up being far more involving than anticipated.

As a result of our conference, I'll come with a rather lengthy list of topics to discuss with our counterparts in Calais, and a few key letters to send off to our contacts in France and elsewhere -- the economic siege is draining the resources of our enemies, but at this rate, it's taking far too long -- they have deeper pockets than anticipated, and we must shift strategies.

I know from your owls that you've been holding Chirac's people at bay, and that the Supreme Mugwump Courtemanche has been demanding as of late as well -- I can help smooth ruffled feathers tomorrow. Merlin knows, the Statute issues pose a rather enormous headache for all parties, but we've rather more immediate concerns at the moment, and, to be honest, the Mugwump could make this a great deal easier than he has been instead of depending on us to lead the way. I'm just glad he hasn't thrown too many bludgers onto the pitch.

I shall be there tomorrow, bearing an assortment of your favourite baked goods courtesy of the Hogwarts House Elves.

Thank you for your continued efforts. They are so deeply appreciated, dearest.
**2015-06-26 22:28:00**  
*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Al*

you home from dover yet?

we're staying up at moddey for the weekend. tonne and a half to do, and the latest round of parents are settling in. wanted to give you a heads up.

might send evie, terry, and kev up this way if you have to go back down south again tomorrow. that'd be nice.

utterly mad up here. in a good way. tents and people everywhere.

---

**alt_alice** at **2015-06-27 04:36:35**  
*(no subject)*

Yes, I got in an hour ago, and will be back at it early tomorrow.

I'll be sure to send them your way. If you're staying up there, I might as well stay down at Dover on Saturday night.

Good to hear it's been going well. And you've enough supplies?

---

**alt_frank** at **2015-06-27 04:39:11**  
*(no subject)*

the food network's been supplementing, and the clothes from france look like they'll work well. arabella's been keeping track of what we need more of.

the blue pants are very popular.

---

**alt_alice** at **2015-06-27 04:44:23**  
*(no subject)*

I'm glad they like them. Our Mr Jondrette thought they'd be in demand.
your mr jondrette is probably making a rather hefty profit margin.

you get a chance to come up here in the next two weeks or so, al, you should take it.

Yes.

I'd like that.
We brought my father in today. To Moddey. To join up with the pack of parents we've been gathering up.

It was

I don't know.

With the younger kids, the ones who're two or three, you can see their faces when they first see their folks, like they're sort of suspicious and confused and excited at the same time, and there are these people they've called 'mum' and 'da' but haven't really known what that meant, and all of a sudden they're there, right in front of them, and

I guess I looked a little like that because Mr L kept looking over at me to make sure I was okay.

I've written my father loads and loads, and he'd had my picture, but it was just

it was very odd.

I wonder if it'll get less odd later.

It's sort of like he's my father, but not my dad. If that makes sense. He shook my hand, and clapped me on the back, but it wasn't long before we ran out of things to talk about.

We sat together at dinner. And we'll be staying here over the weekend. So maybe that'll help.

I just don't know what it'll be like when he's got a house somewhere. Like how often I ought to visit, or whether he expects me to stay overnight, or, you know, live there, and coming over for Sunday dinner is all well and good in theory, but Sunday dinner is when we all get together in a big group at Moddey, and Moddey is the family I know, and he just happens to be related to me. And I guess I thought there'd be this big moment of knowing.

I've seen it. I know it happens. We brought Melissa Mayberry's mum
and sister and brother by the other day, and in two seconds, they were hugging and crying and laughing and talking a mile a minute and it was like they were picking up where they left off, only Mel was a baby when she was brought here just like me, and I don't know what made it easier for her.

Maybe if mum were still around it'd be different. Or Den. Or if I was younger.

This is just all sorts of complicated.

And I know

I know it's extra complicated because of your dad, too. And how very much you miss him, and that we still haven't tracked him down yet.

Anyways. I thought you might pop over to Moddey sometime over the weekend if you wanted. To say hallo. And see if you could come up with things to talk about, because otherwise, it'll be me and him staring at our plates the entire time.

You're probably sleeping by now, but if you see this when you wake up, know that I miss you and love you.

---

**alt_Luna** at **2015-06-28 16:51:14**

*(no subject)*

Might I come to Moddey today? You have had a little time with him now--I wanted to give you that--and I would truly like to meet him.

Please don't feel that I'm hurt in any way because you have your father with you right now and I don't, all right? I still have hope I'll find mine someday. Somehow. Until then, I'd like to find happiness in the fact that you've been reunited with yours.

It's bound to be awkward at first, but don't lose heart, Colin. He and your Mum made the decisions they did because they loved you and Dennis. Perhaps your father might be even a little bit shy? I imagine that being brought to Moddey Dhoo is quite a change for him, so he needs some time to adjust.

I will come as soon as I've had lunch.
Just made it back. All of us.

Turns out it wasn't exactly a burglary after all in Paisley. Bit complicated, but Mr Bernard, the bloke who called us in, is father of the shop owner. It was staged by the daughter to look like someone'd burgled her place, but really she was handing off some things on the sly to cover the 'business tax' that Lestrange's lot have been wringing out of folks.

The father really didn't know. Or only knew that some Protectorate muscle had come nosing around, but then there'd been this break-in, with broken windows and things overturned, and merchandise missing, and he'd called us because he thought 'what good are that other lot, if they come badger us for taxes, but then don't keep us from being burgled?' He said there've been other things happen to other shops and houses. Windows broken, animals frightened off, vandals writing things on buildings.

Anywiz. They sell housewares and expensive grocery items. You know, oils and olives and stuff you bake with--ginger and spices and wotnot. Most of it's stuff that's not available for importing now, so the stock they have is well valuable.

They'd gone through and had a list of what had been taken that included some expensive knives with fancy charmswork on them; some clocks that tell you if the baby's sleeping, and some kitchen timers that tell you when the eggs have done; some silver frames; a couple of mirrors; and a giant hunk of truffle that was supposed to be worth hundreds of galleons.

We realised there was something hinky about it, though, as soon as we began looking over the scene: there were linens and tables and things like coat-trees and umbrella stands overturned at the front of the shop. And loads of pots bashed up and thrown about in the back, but the only food items that'd really been disturbed was a load of flour and sugar; the expensive things were all unbroken, though they were knocked over--more like laid over on their sides as if they'd been knocked off their shelves, but for none of them to've broken, their cushioning charms would have to have been dead excellent.
We were able to use vectoring charms to tell that the scene'd been staged for us--a lot of it just didn't make sense for what we were meant to think had happened. And then we were able to put a trace on the truffle because there'd been a security spell on it, originally, and there were bits of it left behind. A nift piece of magic, that was.

So that's that. The daughter hadn't wanted her father getting mixed up with the MLE thugs who'd come, demanding payments, because she said she knew Mr Bernard would've thought he could protect her, but he'd've been in over his head with them, and she was afraid of what might've happened. She thought she could just set it up to look like a robbery, and her father wouldn't have to know. He keeps the books, see, so she needed a story for where those things had gone.

I don't reckon any of it's recoverable, unless we want to go running after Lestrange's lot.

---

**alt_rachel** at 2015-06-28 05:09:59
(no subject)

Good work, all of you. Especially with the vectoring charms.

You're probably right about it not being recoverable -- I'm not inclined to tangle with the DEs for a piece of truffle, no matter how valuable it is. Did you set some security charms for them? I think those attacks by people with Phoenix armbands may be retribution for suspected contact with the Order, when they're not punishment for failure to pay up when the extortioner drops by.

---

**alt_ron** at 2015-06-28 05:24:11
(no subject)

Yeah, we did set up some warding for them and left them one of the bottles with Wright's patronus in. If they need us, they can send the panic call.

---

**alt_rachel** at 2015-06-28 05:25:43
(no subject)

Speaking of panic calls -- there's a Death Eater attack in progress at Maidstone. You got another apparation in you tonight?
Yeah, just saw that.
I'm on it. Meet you in the entrance hall?

See you there.
I have an enormous box chock full of records.

The bands have names like Nirvana and Soundgarden and Foo Fighters and Talking Heads and Bashtung and Noir Desir and Mano Negra and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and Poison and Metallica, and they all look utterly wild.

It's taken ages to get together. I had to get in touch with a shop in Paris who could understand what I wanted, and I hardly knew where to begin, so we started just sort of exchanging information about the top ten hits on the radio in France and America and went from there. And apparently, most people don't really listen to records any more, so while they make some for novelty, it's actually sort of difficult to find records of recently made music. They had something called tapes for a while, but now it's disques compacts or somesuch, and we needed a special machine to play them with electricity and batteries and things, so they had to track down the actual records, and they're here! It’s like Christmas.

You'd better believe they'll be on our radio soon enough. But first, there'll be a rather massive listening party at Hogwarts.

I've just started the Nirvana one and it. is. SO. BRILL. Sue, you've got to hear it. It's just

It's beautiful and sad and angry and raw, and I just started crying because it's like some sort of beautiful lifeline to the outside world and it's new and different and I can't wait to understand it.
2015-06-27 23:43:00
Private message to Jason

I'm being sent with Auror Unit 12 to Maidstone Camp. Not sure exactly what we're going to be doing there -- but I expect there will be Phoenixes! Didn't want to be a no-show without telling you why.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-28 04:53:47
(no subject)

You sound well excited. I remember that feeling--seeing action for the first time.

Wreston is Unit 12's leader. He's good. I worked with him for my third intensive during the TWC.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-28 04:56:30
(no subject)

Good. I mean, I'm glad you think he's good.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-28 04:57:02
(no subject)

It's not really the first time I've seen action. It's the first time in a while, though. And it's my first time as an Auror-Trainee.

alt_jason at 2015-06-28 05:01:48
(no subject)

I know you've seen action before--I was on the council, too. Or did you not notice me back then? I noticed you. And the rest of your cohort, of course.

Anyway, it's different as an Auror. Better, I think.

You'll come back to tired to play, but don't worry about waking me.
I won't.
**2015-06-28 00:15:00**

*Order Only: Fire*

Alarms just went up here in Maidstone. Their warehouse is on fire.

We'll put the fire out but Pansy, Jeremy, they'll be short on whatever we can't salvage.

---

**@alt_pansy** at **2015-06-28 05:19:35**

*(no subject)*

Duly noted. We'll look at the maps and see what can be shifted.

---

**@alt_sirius** at **2015-06-28 05:22:37**

*(no subject)*

Remus, Alice, Rachel - worse than we thought.

Death Eaters in the camps.

---

**@alt_frank** at **2015-06-28 05:23:58**

*(no subject)*

Tonks, Colin and me are on our way.

---

**@alt_rachel** at **2015-06-28 05:24:19**

*(no subject)*

Bugger. On my way. (I'm having someone round up the others.)
alt_ron at 2015-06-28 05:25:45
(no subject)
D'you want me along?

alt_rachel at 2015-06-28 05:26:32
(no subject)
Yes.

alt_alice at 2015-06-28 05:25:53
(no subject)
Merlin.

How many?

Rachel, let us know if you need to supplement with some additional wands.

alt_sirius at 2015-06-28 05:28:20
(no subject)
Hard to tell. They keep striking and then Apparating away.

alt_lupin at 2015-06-28 05:27:00
(no subject)
Who?
I don't know for sure. Not Bella, nor Barty - at least, I haven't seen them. But this is a rather large camp and their people keep popping off. They shoot off a few curses and Apparate to safety.
2015-06-28 00:36:00
Private message to Jason

Back! You still awake? You were wrong, I'm not tired.

alt_seamus

alt_jason at 2015-06-28 05:39:13
(no subject)

Well that was a short night of work. No wonder you're not tired.

Still awake, yeah.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-28 05:47:28
(no subject)

We hit them hard, then took off when their reinforcements showed up. So yeah.

I'll see you soon!
2015-06-28 00:38:00
Order Only

Those of you still at the castle -- it looks like they left as soon as most of us showed up.

We're going to check over the camp thoroughly (and finish putting out the fire, and render what aid we can) but I don't think we're going to need more wands tonight. Well, we could use a Healer. But other than that.

alt_poppy at 2015-06-28 05:41:42
(no subject)

On my way.

alt_sirius at 2015-06-28 05:41:57
(no subject)

Odd tactic for them.

Random, do you think? Or do we have to worry that someone told Bella there were Order members here tonight?

alt_rachel at 2015-06-28 05:44:27
Private message to Sirius

If it were a spy passing information, wouldn't they have told Bella not just that there were Order members, but that one of them was Sirius Black?

Bella didn't show up. So she didn't know you were here.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-06-28 05:42:00
(no subject)

On my way.

How many injuries?
We're still figuring that out. The camp's big. It was mostly muggles who got hurt, and a lot of them from the fire that was set.

We might consider instituting anti-apparation wards around key points in the camps to see if we can't head this off in the future.

I know you're up to your ears, but once things are settled, let's see what we can sort out.
We found Luna's dad.

We went to her house at Ottery St Catchpole to pick up some mementos, and he was there.

He's very thin, I can't tell how he's still able to stand, and very disoriented - he doesn't seem to recognise Luna at all. We can't tell when he got here or how, but he's been living in a shed out back and eating whatever fruit or dried food he could find.

I'm going to side-along him to the front gate of Hogwarts once he settles down a little, and Luna's coming with too. Madame P, Sally-Anne, Mrs Weasley, Mrs L, will someone be waiting for us?

---

@alt_molly at 2015-06-28 20:38:02
(no subject)

My stars! Xeno's alive?

Oh my goodness! I'll find Madame Pomfrey, dear, and she'll be standing by when you arrive.

@alt_kingsley at 2015-06-28 20:39:30
(no subject)

Good.

Thanks, Mrs Weasley.

@alt_luna at 2015-06-28 20:41:07
(no subject)

He's so thin. He looks like a skeleton. He can't even walk--just crawl.
Oh, my dear girl.

If anyone can pull him through, you know it's Poppy.

Closing my journal to go find her now.

hey kiddo, just got this, you have a handle on things? send the word, tonks and me can give a hand.

We've got it sorted, yeah. He's getting calmer, I figure we can head to Hogwarts in an hour or so. We gave him a little food and water, and that helped.

Good. Thank you, Colin.

Xeno Lovegood is dehydrated and appears to have recently been ill. He's so thin we can see his bones, and that doesn't seem just to be the recent illness. He's been eaten alive by bugs, and when he tries to talk what comes out isn't proper language. We can't tell yet if that's permanent spell damage or something that will heal with the rest of him.

We've been giving him fluids and various restoratives.
I'm not sure if Madam P will want to add anything to this.

alitéalice at 2015-06-29 17:06:23
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Mr Lupin, and Sirius. (And Madam P.)

Thank you, Sally-Anne.

Poppy, Severus left some notes for me -- he'd been doing some initial research into healing extensive spell damage before he died, to see what could be done for Neville. It was just in the preliminary stages of course, but I was thinking of passing it along to Hermione to see what she could make of it.
Private message to Crouch

I know you weren't at Maidstone last night. I would have known, this time.

Too bad. I don't think I dropped my elbow at all, but you could have told me for sure.

I realised something, though. When you last wrote you called Justin "squib-spawn" - did Antonin Dolohov really not tell you tell you the truth? Or did Dolohov simply not believe what Justin told him?

---

(No subject)

Was not at Maidstone, no.

Have you kept up the resistance drills in your training? Heaviness charms, forearms and ankles?
Suction drills/mud drills for stamina and agility?

Have you met the sire and dam, then? To sort out which of his lineage claims is true, which false? Obviously it matters to you that we lower our estimation. Competing with your Aunt Andromeda for family outrage? There's less shock value these days.

(No subject)

Kept up, yes. Kept up to your standards? Likely not.

His parents don't live in England, so no.

Does that mean you haven't told my mother? That's thoughtful of you. Though now that I've brought it up you might think of the matter next time she sees you.

Anyway I wasn't trying to shock anyone. I wasn't a legilimens when I met him, so I didn't even know straight away. Not until some time later, when he told me.
No idea what your mother knows or thinks on this subject.

Why tell me?

Because I want you to tell me why you think it's wrong.

Would that serve any purpose at all?

Doesn't everything serve a purpose?

Clearly not.

On the sparring floor (for instance), all actions, all pauses, all decisions either create opportunity or put you at risk. Those that create opportunity would be said to serve a purpose; the latter, not.
They serve a purpose to your sparring partner. Just as all of your partner's actions, pauses, and decisions serve a purpose for you.

You speak as though sparring were an altruistic endeavour.

Partner can mean the person you're sparring against, or the partner you're teamed up with. If you don't want to tell me why it's wrong, just say so.

You want to know why it's wrong for a mudblood to exist? Or for a witch to bind herself to one?

Which 'wrong' is it that you want to solve or understand? Either ask plainly what you want to know, or state plainly what you want to declare.

Will have to wait for another night, however.

Would ask you along on tonight's task if you were still available for the asking. You'd be well-suited for it.
I don't want to solve or understand anything. I just want to see what you say.

Still unavailable, I'm afraid.

Here's what I say: run to France if you want to keep on with your piece of mud-flesh.

Go now. Through Dover. Take the opportunity while you can.
2015-06-28 23:47:00
Private message to Jason

I've been thinking about last night at Maidstone. The plan was to go in, strike, and then take off before they could properly respond, so we left when reinforcements turned up. There were a few wizards there when we arrived, though.

And, I've been thinking about this. I got just a quick look at one of them, and it was dark and there was a lot of smoke. But I think -- it might have been Sirius Black. I didn't write to Bellatrix or send word back to MLE because I would have felt such an idiot if it had turned out to be some other dark-haired bloke with a beard. Also, I was along as a trainee, and Wreston wasn't saying anything, and -- but the more I think about it, the more I'm pretty sure that's who I saw. Only I'm not sure now if I'm accidentally playing a trick on myself, you know? I don't know if I'm remembering properly what I really saw or not.

Anyway I don't think I'd better tell Bellatrix that maybe I spotted Sirius Black last night and didn't say anything.

How do you think I'm coming along, with the occlumency?

alt_seamus

2015-06-29 05:01:52
(no subject)

You want to know if you're skilled enough to keep something from Lady Lestrange?

I can see that you practising has made a difference, but she's a much stronger legilimens than I. I don't know what she'd see.

But with the way her behaviour and temperament have been of late, it might be better to tell her, magnanimous as she's been. Especially as it would be in keeping with the helpful nature you've already established.

I could tell her for you, too.
I don't think I'd be able to keep something from her if she was looking for it. But if you think I should tell her, I'd probably better do it.

I've been with MLE for a few years now. And I don't have to read her mind to know that there's nothing Lady Lestrange detests more than someone who thinks they can outsmart her, or who refuses to acknowledge the fact that she's better than them in every way. And she is smarter and better than pretty much everyone.

Write to her now and let me know what she says.

Don't tell her your memory is fuzzy, though. Tell her that you only realised the person might have been Black after the fact, but that you aren't even sure if you're right because neither Wreston nor anyone else ever noticed that anything was amiss.

She said my vigilance was admirable but I should be mindful of false alarms. I think she thinks I saw some dark-haired bloke with a beard.
Oh look, but she wrote to Wreston. So whatever happens next, it'll be on him. As it should be, because if Black really was there it was the Unit Leader's responsibility to notice.

You don't mind that I told you how to approach her?

No. Though, I mean, I'm a Gryffindor. It goes against my nature not to just shoulder all blame myself.

Bloody hell, is that what being a Gryffindor is like? That sounds awful. How can you stand it?

Though you're probably wondering how I can stand to be so slimy and duplicitous, aren't you?

Don't even get me started on my House. Slytherins are FINE with me.

Really, though--I usually don't mind the fact that I can tell when a person is lying or telling the truth, while meanwhile they haven't a clue where I stand.

But yeah, everyone once and a while I wonder what it would be like to be able to have someone see me.
With the right person it could be comforting, or something, I expect.

Well, I don't at all mind you knowing. I never exactly fancied it with Hydra, though.

It helps a lot to trust the other person.

Yeah, thanks for that. I wouldn't ever tell you to go to Lady Lestrange if I didn't think it would be all right. That you wouldn't be all right, I mean.

Yeah.

I know.

You on your way yet?

Before you are, I should let you know that I've got enough of a proper Gryffindor side to not act on certain things until they're spoken of aloud.
That sounds intriguing. I'll be there in a minute.

It's very intriguing!

You'd better hurry.
2015-06-29 00:14:00
Private message to Bellatrix Lestrange

Ma'am, I've been thinking about the skirmish at Maidstone last night, and I think one of the wizards we fought there was Black.

I only realised it after the fact. And I'm not positive I'm right. It was dark, and neither Wreston nor any of the others in my unit seemed to notice anything amiss.

But, I thought you should know.

alt_bellatrix at 2015-06-29 05:21:22
(no subject)

This is the first I've heard of anyone sighting Black at Maidstone.

Your vigilance is admirable, small one, but we must also be mindful of false alarms.

Thank you, however, for bringing the matter to my attention.

alt_seamus at 2015-06-29 05:22:01
(no subject)

Thank you, ma'am.
2015-06-29 00:24:00  
Private message to Gardant Wreston

I'd like to follow up on your debriefing with Barty. My office, fifteen minutes.

Would also like a full report on the trainees who accompanied, so bring your notes.
Madam Pomfrey says she's quite sure now that my Daddy will live.

if you had looked for him, only looked for him, he wouldn't have suffered so much.

---

**alt_luna** at 2015-06-29 23:19:07
*Private message to Mrs Weasley*

Thank you for spelling me sitting with him. I think he's so much calmer when you're nearby. Perhaps a tiny part of him remembers you. At least a little.

Oh, I wish he remembered me.

---

**alt_molly** at 2015-06-29 23:43:16
*Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley*

Perhaps his head will clear a little, Luna dear, when he's less exhausted and is feeling better physically. I think Madam Pomfrey would agree that we won't have a true picture of his mental state until he's had more of a chance to recover.

---

**alt_luna** at 2015-06-29 23:46:06
*Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley*

I hope so.

---

**alt_molly** at 2015-06-29 23:47:14
*Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley*

And I'm happy to sit with him. You know if there was anything I could do to help either of you, I wouldn't hesitate to do it.
alt_luna at 2015-06-29 23:56:39
Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley

Oh...

There is something you might be able to help me with.

This is a little embarrassing, but you see

When the moon came close, I can't bear the touch of clothing. At least I couldn't last month. I tore them all off me. And then the next morning I was just mortified, because Terry had been with me all night. Well, he said that as the Professor, he didn't notice that sort of thing, only I don't know whether it's true, or whether he was just trying to spare my feelings.

Do you think we could make something for me to wear, something close-fitting but really extra soft? Or fix it somehow so I wouldn't take it off?

I just thought, well, you know so many charms.

I suppose it's silly to quibble or complain when I should be grateful that I'm not transforming.

alt_molly at 2015-06-29 23:59:23
Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley

Oh, Luna. Of course it isn't silly. Naturally you don't want to be--

Well, I entirely understand.

Let's put our heads together tonight, shall we? Perhaps there are some charms that might help. A notice-me-not spell woven into the fabric, or one that makes the clothing so light that it rests on a cushion of air about the skin.

Come find me at dinner, why don't you?
I'm sorry I cried so much last night. If your shoulders were sponges, they would have soaked up a gallon of tears.

I keep looking at the sketch portrait you did of me, and it's

I don't know

It's so beautiful. I'm not used to thinking of myself as beautiful. And it's comforting

Is that really how you see me? truly?

I will gladly provide my shoulders whenever they're needed. They needed some watering anyhow. Dry shoulders are the absolute worst.

It's beautiful because you are. You're ethereal and mysterious and intoxicating and interesting and wonderfully different and you make the room light up when you walk in and your smile makes me go wobbly, and if I'm not careful, I'll start sounding like Linus, only because I'm so utterly besotted with you, Luna Lovegood, and I think you're absolutely magnificent.

I'm glad you liked it.

I'm glad your father's still alive, too.

The rest of it, we'll handle as it comes along. Together, yeah?
I've picked up my quill and it's been poised over my journal, but I've been twiddling it between my fingers for fifteen minutes, wondering what to say back to you. I won't insult you or hurt you by telling you you're wrong about me. But I don't I can't

Right now I can't think very far ahead. Just till the full moon, two days for now. Perhaps it will easier to think of the future with time.

Oh, please do stop by. I have a beastly headache again, and I honestly could use a cuddle again.

Of course.

It's not quite so bad this month. I still feel fretful, and I've cried oceans today, but I suppose finding Daddy might be the reason for that. I'm not as irritable as last month, either.

And I'm not so frightened.

Mr Lupin's tea helps. I think Colin has poured pots of it down my throat in the last couple of days.

I'm not craving meat this month. Instead, my appetite has gone completely off; I don't want to eat anything. My skin is starting to have that same sensitivity again, though. I've switched to wearing my oldest and softest clothes, and I'll probably spend all day tomorrow in my pyjamas. Colin told me he noticed that I startle much more easily.
Let's see, what else.

Oh! Colin and I have been sketching almost every day for the past week. I do it when I'm talking to him, or when he's telling me stories, so I'm not thinking while I'm doing it. He pointed out that my sketches have started looking quite different from my usual style over the last day or two. Shorter, thicker lines, more jagged edges, more shadows. I hadn't even noticed it until he pointed it out, but it's true. Anyway, he suggested I might continue sketching up to and just after the full moon, and showing the sketches to you. I asked him why, and he said that it might give you clues about hand-eye coordination, and mood, and...I don't know. He thought it just might be useful.

I think he just wants something to be useful.

So anyway, I'm saving the sketches, and dating them, and putting them aside.

Did you...do you think there might be a potion I can try this time? Or will I just have to use the tea and learn to bear the whole thing?

---

alt_poppy at 2015-06-30 03:36:11
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger, Madam Pomfrey and Sally-Anne Perks

I would very much like to see the sketches. Interesting, indeed.

As for potions, there is one I believe we should try, beginning tomorrow evening. Something to help with the anxiousness and agitation.

For tonight, though, I'll be along in a few minutes with something to help soothe your skin sensitivity, and if you're wishing for a sleep aid, we'll weigh the possibility, but on the whole, I believe it would be better if we avoided that.
alt_luna at 2015-06-29 23:41:12
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

Are you still willing to be with me during the full moon, Terry?

alt_terry at 2015-06-30 00:01:27
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

You don't have to ask every month, Luna.

We can consider the full moon to be a standing appointment in my calendar, all right?

alt_luna at 2015-06-30 00:02:24
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

Well.

I felt it only right to ask. Now that we both know what it will be like.

alt_terry at 2015-06-30 00:03:25
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

I helped you, didn't I?

So then.

I'm glad to do it, honest.

alt_luna at 2015-06-30 00:05:47
Re: Private message to Terry Boot Longbottom

You did help.

Well then, I won't ask each month then. But you'll tell me, won't you, if you can't anytime?

We'll go forward from that.

Thank you.
That's good to hear, Lunes.
Order Only: Private message to Sirius, Poppy, Charlie, Rachel, and Alice

So we've been working to put together a tribunal for Maebh. Charlie, what did the goblins say about wanting a representative? Think it's worth trying to talk to the Centaurs? We're tentatively planning half wizard, half muggle, presider to be decided by coin flip at beginning of trial.

We're also still trying to work out ground rules. As simple as -- is she on trial for her life, or not? Four of the muggles I've been working with feel very strongly that the death penalty is not acceptable under any circumstances and wish it taken off the table as an option. There's another who thinks it's fine provided we can perform the execution humanely and wanted me to ask whether we have any potions that would kill someone painlessly. I told him I'd ask you, Poppy. I suppose there remains the question of how we'd persuade someone to drink it.

I have a list of a dozen other questions but I've misplaced it. Oh, right. Security, of course. Are we going to make this public. I'm sure I'll remember the other eleven once I finish this.

The ones who are in favour of capital punishment are especially vocal about it where Bellatrix Lestrange and Barty Crouch are concerned.

It's one thing to show mercy to Maebh. Bella is another matter.

I've told them it's extremely unlikely. No one's going to be fighting Bellatrix is 'stupefy.' They're not convinced.

There's a reason I'd rather be making rounds at the camps. Even with 57 to bury from that fire and the MLE attack Saturday. (It still frustrates me they retreated so quickly.)
They do understand that we'll be potentially faced with some highly dangerous people who will never be trusted to behave themselves, yes? We can't exile them all. I agree about Bella and Barty, though - they'll never allow themselves to be taken alive. But even if Bella and Barty die in the field, they're not the only ones.

**alt_lupin** at 2015-06-30 04:23:39  
(no subject)

Trust me, I have done my best to explain.

They want to solve everything with Saltash. I should say, it's not just the muggles who think the death penalty is wrong, there's also a wizard and a witch, but the muggles are a great deal more vocal about it.

The muggles want to build a proper maximum-security prison in a null zone, so the prisoners can't wandlessly apparate out and get away again.

**alt_sirius** at 2015-06-30 04:26:58  
(no subject)

I appreciate the pragmatism of keeping them from being able to do magic, but does that really send the right message? Throwing them in a null zone? Mind you, Dementors aren't any better. But there must be an alternative between the two extremes.

I don't envy you. We have to show we have teeth, but we don't want people to think we'll be entirely without compassion, either.

**alt_lupin** at 2015-06-30 04:28:55  
(no subject)

I totally agree with you about the message and I tried pointing that out!

The muggles found that utterly baffling because to them, it's not that they're punishing anyone by turning them into a muggle, it's just a terrifically pragmatic way to keep very dangerous wizards locked up.
Possibly I shouldn't have pointed out that there have been cases of wandless apparation.

Of course two-thirds of the wizards and witches just want to keep using Azkaban.

Perhaps we ought to bring by some of Azkaban's recent residents, and have them provide a testimonial of sorts.

Would your goal be to persuade the wizards and witches that Azkaban is inhumane, or to persuade the muggles that it's an adequate punishment for someone like Maebh?

My goal would be to persuade the wizards and witches of its incredible cruelty.

It is effective -- there's no mistaking that -- but it amounts to continual torture.

Hermione getting you your potion all right?

I'll be home tomorrow.
Of course she is.

Luna Lovegood's just about climbing the walls, though. I checked on her earlier today, along with her father.

And I haven't been getting enough sleep and this tribunal business, ugh. It's enough to make me wish I were Head, so I could have handed it to Alice. Or to make me wish I'd been there to fling myself in front of Kingsley, who'd be quite a bit better at this mess than I am.

Sorry.

Three weeks out of the month, you're the perfect person for this job, though. Well. Alice has more patience but often not enough steel.

Thanks for the vote of confidence.

Too bad no one turns well-organised and level-headed at the full moon so they could just take over for me that week. Think how convenient that would be.

Well, that leaves me out.
alt_lupin at 2015-06-30 04:59:19
Re: Private Message to Moony

Muggles are always so shocked to find out you're not the one who's actually in charge.

Little do they know.

alt_sirius at 2015-06-30 16:06:52
Re: Private Message to Moony

Oi, I sleep with someone who's in charge. That must count for something, right?

(And too right, they're not half disappointed when I tell them only someone out of his mind would have me running things.)

alt_lupin at 2015-06-30 16:13:04
Re: Private Message to Moony

You and Frank both. And Molly, before that.

Imagine the Order run by you, Frank, and Molly.

alt_poppy at 2015-06-30 04:28:45
(no subject)

If you bring in the Centaurs, they'll insist on executions. Imagine the goblins would agree.

Of course, there are potions one could use. Combinations of potions, most likely.

A Healer wouldn't consent to administer them, but that would scarcely stand in the way.

Before I offer suggestions, tell me: where do you stand on the matter?
This is the wrong time of month to expect a clear-minded opinion on this. I go back and forth depending on who's making the case.

If we don't execute anyone, if we make it clear that anyone who becomes our prisoner will at least live and not be subjected to Dementors (which frankly many people, myself included, view as a fate worse than a nice quick death) that ought to encourage people to surrender to us. Even in the middle of a battle. And I'm not the least bit worried that Bellatrix, Barty, or Antonin will do so, relieving us of the trauma of having to show mercy to any of their lot.

On the other hand, there are some extremely dangerous people who are not any of those three, as Sirius pointed out, and many of them have done everything within their power to demonstrate how thoroughly they deserve to die. Maebh Drumgoole included.

Well, it's a good thing that no one person gets to decide, then.

I'm not sure it's enough for a full panel of 16 to decide, either.

Cadmus Mulciber, Thorfinn Rowle, Mordant Travers. The list of dangerous people who have done heinous things is a long one. I do think- I wish we would respect the muggles' view that a death sentence crosses an ethical boundary that could separate us from those we condemn as murderers. It would also definitively separate us from the Protectorate and its abuses.

I quite agree that life in Azkaban is an unrelenting punishment and that a quick death could be a less horrifying prospect to most
convicts facing one or the other. One might ask, then, whether
death is too kind a punishment, whether people guilty of so much
don't deserve to be subjected to duress until the end of their
natural lives.

I apologise. Doubtless this is exactly the sort of thing you've been
listening to ad nauseum, and for myself, I'm rather glad not to be
in a position to debate and decide the issue.

So. If I were making a recommendation on what potions one might
use to effect death painlessly, I would propose first of all a dose of
the Draught of Living Death, followed by whatever means of death
your panel sees fit: DLD works very swiftly and induces complete
oblivion. One might follow with a strong poison, though it would
require magical inducement to manage the swallowing reflex.
Naturally there are other more and less savoury means of causing
death to an unconscious body.

As for compelling a person to swallow the DLD in the first place, a
well-administered Confundus hex might overcome resistance.

Those advocating for death -- some of them insist
it's less 'punishment' and more 'we will put them
down like dangerous animals because there is no
other reliable way to protect ourselves an others.'
Those advocating for punishment -- actually many prefer
Azkaban. Because you're quite right.

In any case, I'll pass along the suggestion of the
Draught of Living Death.

I anticipate several delightful hours discussing
whether we could simply offer the Draught of Living Death as an
option to anyone who prefers not to fully experience whatever
method our panel considers adequate, rather than compelling
them to use it. Is it a humane death if the means of oblivion was
freely available and the prisoner chose not to use it?
Of course, part of the purpose of the Draught would be the emotional comfort of the executioner. Allowing them to refuse it would be in direct opposition to that purpose.

Well. You have my thanks for seeing this negotiation through and working for a sound resolution.

How are you managing tonight?

I think I'm in a better frame of mind than Luna.

I wouldn't be a teenager again for anything.

Oh, quite right.

The absolute worse part of being mentor to a brand new adolescent non-transforming werewolf is the power of suggestion.

She's quite bothered by anything touching her skin. That hadn't bothered me for years but this month? It's like everything I own might as well be made from hand-knitted jute string.

And don't worry, I wouldn't say this to her. My job's quite clear here, and I'll do my best.
Re: Private Message to Remus

I'm afraid that I can't offer the quaff I provided Miss Lovegood: it would quite definitely interfere with the Wolfsbane. I could give you a topical salve for the worst spots.

Do you find any relief if you remove your clothing?

Other than that, the best I can suggest is to keep as well hydrated as you're able. Meditation might also help, but only if you are already in the habit. Itching would certainly trum

I do, but it's not a terribly practical solution when I'm in a meeting to discuss the details of Maebh's tribunal.

I don't think a salve would do much, but thank you.

I suppose a Notice-Me-Not wouldn't be sufficient to make nudity a comfortable solution under those circumstances.

I'm supposed to be running these meetings.

So a notice-me-not charm would probably work extremely well, except for what it would do to my effectiveness at getting people to stop quarreling over minutiae.
I completely disagree about the preferred strategy here with execution.

If you surrender to us, if you *turn yourself in*, we won't execute you. That's the deal we make with everyone.

If we take you down, or if you 'surrender' by dropping your wand when we've got you cornered with your back against a wall, you'll be on trial for your life, if your crimes are bad enough.

What's 'bad enough,' though?

I'd have to think about it.

But that's the tribunal's job to sort out, isn't it? So there's no real reason for me to try to work out a standard, unless the tribunal actually wants my input.

This is so far outside of the realm of typical justice, because the magnitude is absolutely overwhelming -- it can't scale up, as it were.

Fu Lee suggested looking into the Nuremberg Trials -- the trials of Muggles who committed extreme atrocities back during the Grinewald era in Europe.

I'm hesitant to set a precedent we can't come back from, but putting it on the table as a possibility does add a certain indicator as to the seriousness with which we're treating things.
-- and the severity of the crimes involved.

I've a feeling we'll end up with something that is markedly unsatisfying for all parties involved.

@alt_alice at 2015-06-30 05:52:35
(no subject)

...and Maebh is a twisted, awful woman, but she's far from the worst of the lot.

@alt_lupin at 2015-06-30 16:11:59
(no subject)

Yes, that got discussed at some length, too. That if we execute Maebh, how can we show how much more strongly we disapprove of the actions of people like Mulciber?

There were a few who had helpful ideas on that score. I'm sure you'll be relieved to hear they were shouted down by the rest.

@alt_sirius at 2015-06-30 16:17:11
(no subject)

What if we modified Azkaban in some ways to make it safer and escape-proof, but sacked all the Dementors? Not a null zone, per se, but an anti-Apparation zone, certainly, human guards .... No wands brought onto the island, that sort of thing?

Use its location and difficult access, its gloominess, but don't inflict inhumane punishment on those incarcerated there.

Sorry. Obviously my subconscious has been working on this all night.
I quite like the idea of sacking Dementors.
You can chair the committee in charge of handling that bit.

I rather like that thought as well.

More of a working group, really. Aren't they all gone from there, anyway? They were in service to Riddle but I don't know who secured their loyalty after that. Hard to imagine Bella didn't try.

So in this case 'sack' may either be unnecessary or it may mean 'seek and destroy.'

Either's fine with me. I bet Draco'd be up for it, too.

If they are gone, there's the thought that they could return once there were prisoners to feed from again.

We'd need to be innovative -- layers of security -- but given that we've got a concentrated team working on picking a rather complicated series of locks at the moment, I'm sure we can turn their rather considerable brainpower towards creating a lock or two themselves.
Consensus from the Goblins is, they'd like to send three but will make due with one if you don't want the panel to be that large. Ideally that would be ... well, the short explanation is one arguing for her, one arguing against her, and one whose job it is to get the other two to arrive at an agreement. I really do recommend that we take all three, otherwise they'll just send the one to argue against her and somebody else on the tribunal will have to keep the peace.

I'll volunteer for the wizarding end of the tribunal, actually. I can imagine the Muggles will be a bit taken aback by Goblin arguing habits, and I can mediate there a bit.

At this point I think the centaurs have told us to fuck right off enough that we should wait for them to come to us. We've made it clear we want to involve them, they've made it clear they want us to leave them alone, if they want to change their minds they know where we are.

Hmm. The problem, of course, is their roles here and the roles of the tribunal as a whole do not exactly match. We could certain allow them to send one goblin for the tribunal and one for the defence team. Or... No, you're probably right it's best to have all three as part of the tribunal.

Our lives will be vastly easier without trying to involve the centaurs.
**2015-06-30 13:55:00**
*Private Message to Crispin and Loyal*

**MLE Watch of the Day**

Something's gone awry, NL17. Need backup.

Will extricate but this crowd has gone from sullen to riotous rather quickly.  

---

**alt_ptolemy** at **2015-06-30 18:58:29**  
(no subject)

Crispin, appreciate your ready wand, mate, but if this trends as I expect, the collections must be returned to Buckingham. More important than you staying to settle things here.

---

**alt_seamus** at **2015-06-30 19:08:30**  
(no subject)

Wreston asked me to let you know his unit's on its way.

---

**alt_seamus** at **2015-06-30 19:09:24**  
(no subject)

Actually, given your note to Crispin, should we be making for the difficulties, or prioritising the collections?

---

**alt_ptolemy** at **2015-06-30 19:13:25**  
(no subject)

I think he's safely away.

At least I don't see him in the throng. Default to your field commander but otherwise, prioritise crowd suppression.
Yes sir.

Sending Unit 6.
More wands than that needed?
Report if you're able.

Better send one more unit besides six.
Has Crispin reported back yet?

Unit 14.
No.

Fenwither reports seeing Peel in the crowd.
Priority on bringing her in alive.
Target acquired. Auror Peel should be on her way out of NL by now (if you're reading this, Ms Peel, do go before it gets too risky to remain, and thank you very much). I'll follow along shortly.

Oh, and....I say, he has a satchel of gold. Should I bring it back or return it to Gringott's on my way?

-F-F

Re the gold, it might have a tracking charm on. Get it off your hands quickly. Or at least dump the sack.

Sounds like you took him alive. Do you think he should be brought back for debriefing? Or is it unlikely he knows anything worth the trouble of trying him later?

First, found the tracker; have removed the gold.

Second, I doubt very much he knows anything we don't already, or that your source can't provide.

If you want this to be a message, then I can leave the satchel so they'll find the body.
Do it.

Bring back the gold. I want you out of New London as quickly as possible.

Understood.

And completed.

Good.

I'll see you soon.
Private Message to F Boyle

Report.
2015-06-30 15:03:00
Private Message to P Baddock, G Wreston, G Fenwither, C Knarck, F Boyle and B Lestrange

Buckingham. Now.

Boyle. Wait for Pelton to collect the corpse.

Bring physical evidence with you.

---

alt_ptolemy at 2015-06-30 20:31:11
Private Message to Barty

Whose corpse?

Oh, bloody fucking bollocks.

Right. There directly.

---

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-06-30 20:33:32
Private Message to B Lestrange

Crispin.

Token: Goldfinch feather. (Finch-Fletchley.)

Arista Peel was with him. Inciting chaos to cover abduction. Ours missed both of them.

Welcome to join the debrief if you've the time. No hurry. Imagine it will take some time to adequately cover the list of failures.
Good work.

Report for debriefing in an hour, then take the rest of the day off. If you’ve any idea who the gold was extorted from, give me a list. If not, no worries.
2015-06-30 15:50:00
Private message to Jason

They're saying Virgil Crispin is dead. Killed by someone from the Order of the Phoenix.

That Auror Crouch knows who did it, but isn't saying.

Was it Draco?

What happened?

alt_jason at 2015-07-01 02:04:48
(no subject)

Yeah, I'm almost as in the dark as you are.

Crouch and Lady Lestrange are keeping it close for now, but I did run into him before the debriefing. His mood was absolutely raging. Moreso than I've seen in a while.

Anyway, yeah, Crispin is definitely dead, and it was definitely a Phoenix.

alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 03:52:34
(no subject)

I'll steer clear of Crouch. Though at least whatever happened today wasn't my fault.

They just...killed him? Or did they kidnap him? Right there in broad daylight -- wasn't he with Baddock?

alt_jason at 2015-07-01 04:02:27
(no subject)

He was whisked away and killed shortly thereafter, is what I heard. The riot was a ruse, probably arranged by Peel, who used to be one of ours, as you likely know.

Anyway, it doesn't bode well.
alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:05:37
(no subject)

Did they kill him quickly or slowly?
And yeah. Everyone always fancied Peel. Everyone else, I mean.

alt_jason at 2015-07-01 04:11:14
(no subject)

He was killed not too long after his capture, so quickly--relatively speaking, of course.
Wish I could tell you more.
Are you perturbed, or just curious?

alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:13:46
(no subject)
Perturbed.

alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:14:34
(no subject)
Crispin was my sponsor.
But also
They didn't really have a reason to hate him. Not really. Other than him being a Councilwizard.

alt_jason at 2015-07-01 04:19:52
(no subject)
It's not hate, it's strategy.
They want to win, Seamus.
And they might do.
But you already know that, right?

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:24:36
(no subject)

I was at the Battle of Hogwarts from the moment it started until Professor Desai ordered us to retreat. I lost my foster-father and my best friend during that battle.

Yeah, I know they might win.

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:24:59
(no subject)

I mean, I know Padma's not dead.

But I lost her all the same.

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:25:36
(no subject)

And it wouldn't be strategy if they tortured him.

@alt_jason at 2015-07-01 04:30:51
(no subject)

Yeah, but they might not win, too.

But if they did, what would you do?

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 04:34:52
(no subject)

I'd try to die well.
And what if I want to live?
We're going to part ways like that?
I hoped for something better, if I'm honest. I hoped not to part ways altogether.

They might go easy on you but they won't on me, if they win.

Years and years ago Mr Rosier took me on a fishing trip early in summer hols.

Well, I guess it wasn't that long ago. It was after my fifth year, after -- after my mother. And after Dominic Selwyn tried to kill Our L Him.

He said it was just fishing, but -- on the day of the solstice, we went so close to the ward it

I think he thought it was going to drop. I don't know why. But it didn't. And then we went home.

I've never told this to anyone. Even Padma.

So would you say that Rosier's priority was protecting himself and you, above all? Even over his service to the Protectorate?
You can tell me the truth, you know I won't judge either way.

And have you ever crossed the wards? I mean, I suppose you must have, being the Irish Prince. But it wasn't fun or pleasant for me. What's it like for you, since it's connected to your blood and whatnot?

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 05:01:56
(no subject)

We didn't talk about it, afterward.

But -- yes, his priority was protecting himself and me. Over anything at all. He'd lost one son, and he didn't want to lose another. So instead, I lost him.

I haven't crossed the Irish wards because I haven't been back to Ireland since I was eleven. I've heard people have a lot of trouble with them. Mr Rosier said that because they were made with my blood I'd be able to cross them freely, I wouldn't even get sick.

But it wasn't the Irish wards he was experimenting with that day two summers ago, it was the one that goes around the Protectorate itself. Where we were, Mr Rosier could feel it in the air, it was annoying and distracting but not awful. For me it was awful. Mr Rosier tried to pretend I was just seasick but we both knew that was a lie.

That's why I thought he was waiting for something. Waiting for the wards to drop. Because normally he'd have taken me away from there straight off. He backed off just enough that I could stand it, and then he waited there. For hours.

@alt_jason at 2015-07-01 05:09:25
(no subject)

Yeah, I didn't think the fishing boat had gone all the way to Ireland--just wondered what those particular wards did to you.

The Protectorate wards have been unstable ever since wossname died. Could be they won't last much longer, even.
Would you have gone with him, if he'd gotten out?
And would you have been happy about it?

alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 05:12:03
(no subject)

I wouldn't have had much choice about going with him, really. We were on a boat and he'd made sure we didn't have anything with us like brooms or a flying carpet. We didn't even have our diaries, probably because he was afraid I might write from the boat and let MLE know what he was up to.

I wouldn't have, though. I mean I wouldn't have tried to stop him from taking us out, and I wouldn't have tried to leave him, if I'd had a broom, so I guess the real answer to your question is yes. I don't know if I'd have been happy about it. Maybe eventually. I don't really know what France is like.

alt_jason at 2015-07-01 05:19:22
(no subject)

Say things go tits up here, and say you want to live like I do instead of dying well--

If I can find a way out for us, would you come with me?

I'm not saying I am what Rosier was to you, or anything, (because aside from the fact that you haven't known me nearly so long, that has rather unsavoury connotations to it, doesn't it?) but I'd like it if you'd come along.

alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 05:27:44
(no subject)

Look, how worried are you? They got Crispin, sure, but we're hardly dropping like flies yet.

Anyway, I'd follow you just about anywhere, but you'll have
to put me in a full body-bind if you want me anywhere near the wards. Cruciatus is worse, but that's not saying much.

@alt_jason at 2015-07-01 05:31:19
(no subject)

You said you were perturbed.

So I'm telling you that if the flies start to drop, I'll get the both of us out of here. That alright with you? Sounds like it is. Good then!

There, now we can stop being perturbed and move on to other things.

Interested in full body-binds, are you?

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 05:33:31
(no subject)

Depends on who's casting them and why!

@alt_jason at 2015-07-01 05:35:03
(no subject)

Sounds like a topic worth exploring.

Well, I'm as awake as you are.

@alt_seamus at 2015-07-01 05:35:59
(no subject)

On my way, then.
Private message to Barty

Rowle and I have finalised the new salary model, just in time for July. He'll be making the announcement later this week. Any concerns should be directed to him.

With that out of the way, I'll see you in my office first thing in the morning. I expect performance reviews for all staff. No parchment-work necessary, just your thoughts on who is meeting expectations and who is not.

Last, between the two of us we must further strategise (both long and short term) how to prevent reoccurrence of today's events. Consult with Rod and Tosha may be required.

They were fortunate you were there this afternoon. I might have put Fenwither and Wreston in St M's for allowing themselves to be distracted by Peel's diversion.

We can't keep losing people.

(Yes. Recognise that it would be counterproductive to maim key personnel ourselves.)

Counterproductive but no less tempting for it. Understand how much I empathise.

I'm making a floo call to Rod later tonight. I believe he'll be more surprised than I was; let us hope that it makes him more accepting of what must come to pass.

I had thought to let you continue pursuit at your leisure, given the singular enjoyment you take from it, but I'm afraid the time for leisure is over.
Indeed.

Told her so myself. Last night. Suggested she run—which guarantees she won't.

We do need a meeting with Rod. Trust he'll see the necessity. And Tosha.

He's beside himself re. the mudblood, of course. (Do not relish telling him today's news.)

We're easy targets here in NL, those of us who work and keep to routines of any kind. No matter how careful we are to vary our routes and to protect our flanks. Easy relative to the phoenixes, holed up in their fortress with no work, no routines. They can spend all their time planning attacks and plotting ambushes. We, meanwhile, have a country to run.

Need to consider new ways to draw them into traps. Need to eliminate their offence. Thin their chief wands.

Also could revisit the possibilities re. a stealth attack on the castle.

And you now know how this pursuit must end, yes?

Don't worry, Barty. I'll let you watch.

Perhaps you can even participate.

As for Tosha, he is in a prime position to do great good for us if he could be trusted to follow through and not waiver.

We know their methods, we know which traps they are most likely to tip into. It's a matter of delivery and execution, both of which must be done flawlessly.
They have doubtless prepared for castle attack, but drawing them away so that the castle is left vulnerable is a possibility to explore.

Yes.

As for Tosha, yes. If.

I am asking - not ordering - you to see if he might be convinced.

I'll be done with Rod by midnight and require that a pair of prisoners be brought to me by then - those least likely to be missed.

I'll see to both.

Also. Re. Rowle.

Admit to having had reservations about a Minister with his own unit of elite wands. Proved their worth today, though. Credit Rowle with showing cooperative.
The clearest sign that you're steering a new course--and successfully so--is the cooperation across units. How far have we come from Fudge's incompetence and Srimgeour's/Yaxley's/Mulciber's intransigence?

Small favours.
Madam:

I write on behalf of Mr George Weasley, who is anxious to assure you that although the press of work for the new government of Albion has kept him from your side for some days, you are very much on his mind. Consequently, he has had his eye out for various sorts of little gifts that would assure a lady to whom he is devoted that while he must be absent in person, he is present in spirit. (A dragon, he thought, would be memorable and distinctive, but rather difficult to gift-wrap, and besides, Charlie is absurdly jealous about allowing them to leave the reserve at the present time.)

I am pleased to report to you that the following list of record albums will be delivered to you by one George Weasley when next you see him, as a sign of his humble devotion to facilitating your ongoing happiness by feeding your rapacious appetite for the strange music of muggle rock bands.

- *Thick as a Brick* by Jethro Tull
- *London Calling* by The Clash
- *Secret Treaties* by Blue Öyster Cult
- *Live and Dangerous* by Thin Lizzy
- *Lust for Life* by Iggy Pop
- *Days of the Future Passed* by The Moody Blues
- *Demons and Wizards* by Uriah Heep
- *Dark Side of the Moon* by Pink Floyd

(These along with about fifty others, in a box which will be made available for you to root through to your heart's content. Excited screeching is expected/encouraged.)

Also included will be a set of earrings that he rather thinks will look
quite fetching on you. And a tin of toffees.

Your humble servant,

Mr Fred Weasley
_Private Secretary/Amanuensis to_
Mr George Weasley

P.S. (You will recognise Mr George Weasley when you see him because he looks surprisingly similar to me. Odd, that.)

---

alt_pansy at 2015-07-01 04:11:47
(no subject)

George Weasley, you are magnificent!

There was screeching of an excited nature, and giggling aplenty, and I may be wearing the earrings right now and listening to Iggy Pop.

(Thank you, Fred, darling)

---

alt_pansy at 2015-07-01 04:14:43
_Private Message to George_

I may be wearing the earrings and not much else at all.

Whenever you're in for the evening, feel free to come on up and see how they look.
2015-06-30 20:17:00
Order Only: Private message to Bill

What time do you think you'll be back in the room tonight? I'd like to see you, but it's going to be a while yet before I can leave my work.

@alt_rachel

2015-07-01 01:41:48
(no subject)

I'm a bit buried at the moment myself: I'm trying to knock off the sorts of month's end tasks that a personnel department would do if we had time to set one up. But I can come find you if need be. What's up?

(Sorry, love. We really need to schedule some time for us to sleep in the same bed in the next week. And perhaps more than sleep. I can my wise old Dad faintly in the back of my head reminding me that new marriages deserve attention, too.)

@alt_bill

2015-07-01 01:43:05
(no subject)

It's hard to make time for romance when we're so busy saving Albion from Death Eaters!

@alt_rachel

2015-07-01 01:48:17
(no subject)

Anyway, I wanted to let you know, since I know your family holds a grudge against him -- Virgil Crispin is dead.

You can tell your family, but please try to make sure your brothers
don't gloat about it where the rest of the Order can see. Crispin was killed by an Order member, on my orders. For reasons that had nothing to do with your family.

Or even with his relative level of evil.

---

**alt_bill** at 2015-07-01 02:01:47  
(no subject)

Wow. The berk is really dead? Finally?

Thank you for telling me. Understood, I'll let them know (I assume you'll tell Ron, if you haven't already?), and I'll make sure they understand your instructions to keep it to themselves. They'll be--well, I'm not sure *glad* is the right word. Relieved, anyway.

So, it had to be done, yet nothing to do with the family. Interesting. Do you mind sharing your reasoning behind this particular chess move? I'm curious, I'll admit, and I'll keep it to myself. (Though if it's something that needs to stay between just you and Alice and Remus, that's fine with me, too.)

---

**alt_rachel** at 2015-07-01 02:18:47  
(no subject)

I wanted to make the younger, newer crop of Death Eaters fear for their lives; Crispin was part of that set. Those young, ambitious purebloods they've been wooing, I want them to think twice before throwing their lot in with the Death Eaters.

Crispin was likeable. (I know you'd disagree.) He was savvy, clever about winning hearts and minds. I don't want their side to have those resources; I want them taking their cues from people like Mulciber and Bellatrix.

Of the other very young ones, some of them are quite useful to my informant; they're a lower priority target. Some are damaging to their own side in various ways. Also lower priority.
Huh. That makes sense.

No, I agree with you absolutely; Crispin was likeable. That's why Percy gravitated to him, and why he was so successful.

I wish--I do hope we won't have to kill them all. Surely some of them might still be salvageable, if we can manage to make them rethink their loyalties.

Well, with wizards like Crispin out of the way, you're right; perhaps it will be easier.

We won't have to kill them all. Some will surrender. Some, we'll want to take alive. Some will likely escape, especially once the wards are down.

If we were doing evillest-dies-first I'm not sure who I'd have sent my person after. Bellatrix but she's too hard to get to or we would start with her. Maybe Cadmus Mulciber. Though frankly I'm not sure how we'd even measure it. Body count? Number of people tortured with cruciatus? Pure individual sadism?

Anyway.

Barty Crouch would be in my top tier, too.

Virgil Crispin ranks up there rather high, though. I guess...
To be frank, he always made me bloody uneasy, because I could so easily have ended up like him. I always saw him as someone who was almost my counterpart. My doppelganger, if I hadn't had Dad at my elbow as my true North. We're both bureaucrats—or Crispin was, I mean. I knew him at Hogwarts; he was several years ahead of me.

Maybe there is even a little jealousy there, if I'm going to be honest, because Percy latched onto him. I'd hoped that I would have had more influence on Percy once he left school and was ready to find work, but Crispin stepped right into that spot as his mentor that I'd hoped to have with him. He taught him all the little tricks he'd need to keep Lucius Malfoy happy. Including how Malfoy wanted his quills sharpened, the whereabouts of the best restaurants in New London, the ins and outs of blackmail, cutthroat jockeying for position, and the Cardinal curses.

Bloody hell, I'm glad he's dead. Even if it won't bring Percy back.

Even though I don't even want Percy back now.

Fuck.

@alt_rachel at 2015-07-01 02:20:07
(no subject)

Well, I don't blame you for being glad.

There was more to Percy's fall than just Virgil Crispin, though. He was searching for someone. He knew he wasn't satisfied with you lot.

@alt_bill at 2015-07-01 02:32:55
(no subject)

I know.

Sometimes that's what make it hurt the worst.
Rachel,

Even though I understand your reasons weren't the same as mine, they led to the same ending.

Thank you.

We promise that we'll keep the matter private to ourselves.

And I don't know why, but I think I'll go off now and have a private little weep.
Hello,

I've been looking for you. Where have you been hiding? Busy tomorrow? I've the day off. I say, I hope you've no other plans.

-Justin

Sorry! I'll meet you in our room.

I was getting something for you.

I've something for you, too.

Only now I've had to tell Ron that on second thought, I shan't run the salle with him tonight.

More important things to do, what. On my way.

-J
Order Only: Private Message to Ron

Ron,

I say, old chap, have you any idea if Hydra's out of the castle? Rachel didn't mention when I got back and I didn't think to ask. But she's not in our room and--well, I say, I've been back for a few hours and haven't seen her yet.

I hope if she's on some sort of mission, she'll be back by morning. First anniversary soon, what. It's almost impossible to conceive.

-Justin

alt_ron at 2015-07-01 03:52:23
(no subject)

Er. No, actually. No idea.

I was out in Worksop all day. And then caught a bit of a nap with Sally Anne before she had to go on-shift for Madam P.

You done for now or wound tight?

alt_ron at 2015-07-01 03:53:24
(no subject)

Heard you completed.

Good show.

alt_justin at 2015-07-01 03:57:05
(no subject)

Yes.

I say, it oughtn't to have been so difficult, getting to the target. I suppose that's the sort of thing we'll have to anticipate from here on. Though I don't think we'll be able to repeat today's escapade.
As for wound up.... I'll admit I hoped Hydra would be about.

But as she's not, I can't decide between a nightcap or a quick run through the salle. Have a preference?

@alt_ron at 2015-07-01 04:11:23
(no subject)

Don't knock yourself for the time it took, getting to him. No one expects them to make themselves easy targets. And, obv, you're right: they'll be even more wary after today. Still, it sounds like it was a dead brilliant op. I saw Peel when I got back, and she said it went exactly to spec. She said your advance work made the difference, too. (And she doesn't throw good reports around, so. Means she was impressed.)

Was it straightforward once you got to him? Did he try anything?

@alt_justin at 2015-07-01 04:23:36
(no subject)

The advance work was more or less what I anticipated. It's just that...we had to start a riot just to catch him off-guard, what. Still, I'm glad to hear her assessment was favourable.

It wasn't--one didn't have much time for nonsense. Had to stupefy him or he'd have Apparated away, what, and then there was the satchel.

I suppose I've taken more than one tip from Dolohov. I revived him long enough to explain why he was about to die.

-J

@alt_ron at 2015-07-01 04:30:58
(no subject)

What did he say? When you told him.

I wonder sometimes about Dovs and what he tells
himself about all of us. About you, especially, but Sally Anne, too. And Hydra, Draco and me.

And Harry.

**alt_justin** at **2015-07-01 04:42:58**
(no subject)

What do any of them say? It doesn't matter. I just don't know why I bothered, what.

I can bally well tell you what he told me, but I don't know if he's changed his recollection as time passes. One does, after all.

-J

**alt_ron** at **2015-07-01 04:37:09**
(no subject)

You know what? Let's run the salle and then see about a drink.

I mean, if we're lucky, blowing a bit of steam will make us want to fall over sleeping, but if it doesn't, I've got a good bottle I picked up today.

**alt_justin** at **2015-07-01 04:44:00**
(no subject)

I'd be game, but Hydra's just written to say she's back home.

Maybe another time, old chap?

-J

**alt_ron** at **2015-07-01 04:50:10**
(no subject)

Oh. Sure, yeah.

Cheers, then.